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PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK Boxing legend and now Sarangani Rep. Manny Pacquiao will soon be moving into this house on Cambridge Street at North Forbes Park, Makati City. This early, residents on Millionaires' Row are super busy eager to welcome their newest neighbor. His immediate neighbors include Sen. Loren Legarda, Tonyboy Cojuangco and the Thai ambassador.

'It's West Philippine Sea'

Gov't, AFP use it now to refer to disputed Spratly areas

SEVERING UNDERSEA LIFE Volunteer divers from the Subic Bay area used the Ilocos Bay marine sanctuary in the Subic Bay Freeport with giant clams to enhance marine biodiversity.

By Norman Bordadora and Dona Pazybugan

THE AQUINO government has apparently made it settled doctrine to use "West Philippine Sea" to refer to the waters west of the country where the Philippines has overlapping territorial claims with five other nations, instead of the all-embracing tag of "South China Sea."

Jolliingly Malacañang yesterday used "West Philippine Sea" for the first time in a statement reacting to China's warning on Thursday, issued through Ambassador Liu Jianchao, to avoid claimants to the disputed Spratlys island group to stop unsettling for oil in the contested region without permission from China.

"The Republic of the Philippines has stated its position on the various territorial issues in the West Philippine Sea. We are committed to dialog with other claimants," presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda told a news briefing yesterday.

"We call on all parties to refrain from inflammatory statements that would make it more difficult to reach a mutually agreeable solution," he said.

In the past few weeks, the Philippines has publicly accused Chinese forces of being behind seven confrontations with Filipinos in the Spratlys in less than four months.

However, Lin said the reported incidents were mere "rumors" or exaggeration, even as he answered China's claim to the reputedly oil-rich Spratlys island chain.

FT STORY ON

DOJ reinstates cops vs 7 Chinese poachers / A8

Pacquiao moves to Forbes but not mother

By Bayani San Diego Jr.
Entertainment

BOXING ICON Manny Pacquiao will soon be starting in Millionaires' Row, but will Mommy Dionisia Dapi be with her celebrity son?

Perhaps, as the Sarangani congressman is known the world over, has reportedly bought a multimillion-peso property in Makati's Forbes Park, probably the most exposed gated community in the country.

The Pacquiao' new home on Cambridge Street, North Forbes, cost a reported P300 million and was reportedly bought from a bank president. Celebrity architect Aidee Mendoza has been put in charge of renovating it.

Pacquiao's business manager Eric Pineda confirmed the lavish purchase of Forbes Park property but declined to comment on the price tag.

"It's true, but the rest is confidential," Pineda said. "I'm not at liberty to divulge the figures.

PACQUIAO A9

Sex trade flourishes in Bilibid

By Miko Morales

A SEX TRADE is flourishing in the maximum-security compound of the New Bilibid Prisons (NBP), according to inmates at the national penitentiary.

Moneyed prisoners wanting a break from their wooden cots pay for sex with prostitutes through inmate pimps, or even with female employees of the Bureau of Corrections (BuCor), the inmates told the Inquirer in separate interviews.

They said the arrangements appeared to have the blessings of prison officials because the women could enter the NBP gates unhampered.

The inmates agreed to disclose how the illicit trade was thriving under the noses of the

SEX TRADE A-8

'Thank God they wore orange life jackets'

By Dona Pazybugan at Manila and Yolanda Sotelo, Inquirer Northern Luzon

THEIR ROCKET orange life jackets saved them.

Almost a day after they were cast a radio message saying they were sinking, 24 fishermen of the boat F/V 3M1 Well were plucked one of sea by a passing cargo ship in a rescue operation off Pangasinan province.

The Hi-tech Well was one of at least four fishing vessels caught in stormy seas off Luzon at the height of Tropical Storm "Dodong." The storm roared out of the country yesterday.

(See related story on Page A13.)

The 24 fishermen survived a night bobbing in the sea and were rescued yesterday morning.

TRAINS A-8

'Dodong' exits, new low-pressure area spotted / A13

They drove 400 km to impress P-Noy

By Melvin Gascon
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—The things they do to impress the boss.

A convoy of 20 vehicles and buses confiscated from various parts of

PARTY 00

6 'Garci Boys' still holding key positions in Comelec

By Christine F. Figueroa

SOME THINGS never change.

Officials implicated in the "Hello, Garci" poll cheating scandal are still occupying key positions in the Commission on Elections (Comelec) despite the appointment of a new chief, according to Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano.

The senator sounded the alarm, particularly on Rio Hamadsalam, the highest Commission Rupon in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) election at first tagged in the 2004 poll scandal.

Cayetano said Hamadsalam was "the most mentioned name as a Garci operator" during the congressional probe into the scandal. Hamadsalam is now the Comelec director for ARMM, he pointed out.

"If we retain the same people in the ARMM, there any form of reform will just be on paper," he said.

A-8 TERRIFIC BOYS A9

NEWS
Palace hits back at critical bishop / A2

SPORTS
Mavs seal 3rd win over Heat, near title / A20

BUSINESS
Thai firms commit billions in investments / B1

LIFESTYLE
Freshman college survival guide-from the seniors / C1

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

6/49 Tuesday
16 20 26 5 11 9
SUPER LOTTO 6/49
4 7 0 8 5 8
EZ2 DUO 2D
3 9 1 1 8 6 5
MEGA LOTTO 6/45
1 7 9 11 13 15
P34,884,336.60

Palace hits back at Butuan bishop

By Norman Bordadora

THE BISHOP "displays the zeal of a Grand Inquisitor and not the Christian humility of a shepherd," said Palace spokesperson Edwin Lorenzo in what could be the strongest exchange yet between the Aquino government and a Catholic leader.

Lorenzo was referring to Butuan Bishop Jose de Dios Pueblos who had called on the President to resign over the alleged sins of his cabal of party-mates, classmates and shooting buddies (kabarilan, kabitan at kabaril sa "EDC"). Pueblos also said there were groups currently moving to oust the son Aquino.

Instead of pastoral concern, he seems ignorant of the virtues of charity, humility and prudence and instead flies from the hip, armed with a hurtful imagination, and utterly without any effort to discern the truth," Lorenzo added.

Lorenzo said Pueblos needs to be advised to "do the most possible" before making a long-standing accusation of impunity."

Short of calling Pueblos a lackey of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Lorenzo noted that Pueblos had questioned calls to investigate the anomalies in the Hello Garci scandal, which alleged there was cheating in the 2004 presidential election, and more recently, the extension of Truth Commissioner to investigate scandals during the Arroyo administration.

Asked if Malacañang sees the involvement of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in the efforts to undermine the administration, Lorenzo said, "Who are their talking heads?"

"Just by reading the talking heads, you would see who they are allied with," Lorenzo said in apparent reference to Pueblos and the lawmakers that called for an investigation of administration officials that were involved in controversies but are allegedly being treated with indifference by President Aquino.

"There seems to be a pattern here," Lorenzo said during yesterday's news briefing in Malacañang.

"[Pueblos] admits to being in the loop as far as people congregating in meetings, but he could not tell the President and told the media he is wearing further details on these supposed plots," Lorenzo said.

"His contribution to the conspiracy of which he claims to be in the know among his opinion that it should be withheld and without victims," he added.

"I doubt if he will (name the plotters). The guys starts with a lie and I doubt if he will speak out the truth," Lorenzo said.

"Let him discern the truth if he is now ready to speak out the truth. And since he is a bishop, his and propaganda, nevertheless, very shocking for a man of the cloth coming from," he added.

Lorenzo said the issues of adverse publicity the past week against Presidential Aquino charged with some of former Arroyo's subalterns saying their scholarships has been stopped by the current administration.

Lorenzo said this was not true. The scholarships are continuing.

It was then followed by the House endorsement's proposal to investigate President Aquino's supposed friends or "EDC" that were allegedly involved in anomalous transactions in the past.

Aquino himself was in the fray when the Mindoro opposition to the nomination of Supreme Court Justice Conchita Carpio-Morales to Ombudsman. This comes as Pueblos' name against President Aquino and his state of a plot being hatched against the Chief Executive.

Asked if there could be some truth to Pueblos' tale of an elusive plot against Mr. Aquino, Lorenzo said: "Suffice it to say that the President is duly elected and the people continue to vote in him."

He added: "We elected President Aquino because he won the complete confidence of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo," Lorenzo said.

Meanwhile, the House ironically said it was standing pat on its decision that President Aquino's "EDC or kabarilan, kabitan and kabaril" party-mates, classmates and shooting buddies" have no participation in politics.

The President's allies, on the other hand, dared the minority to formalize their complaints against the "EDC" in a resolution for to make sure they have evidence to sanction them.

"There is no party stand on the non-governmental order of the President's allies. But we welcome it for transparency," said Iloilo Rep. Rod Tupas Jr. of the President's Liberal Party.

But Tupas dismissed the minority's threat to seek a congressional probe as just an a 'political move.'"

Quezon Rep. Lorenzo "Erin" Tanada III said the minority's demand for a probe was no different from the call of the Butuan Bishop, a loyal supporter of the previous administration, for the President to resign.

House minority leader Edcel Lagman, in a statement released on the sidelines of Aquino's SONA as Lord Transportation Officer (LTO) Chief Virginia Torres, shooting buddy of the President, who was recommended for dismissal by the Department of Justice for interference in the fast-lane ownership dispute in Isabela and local Governmental Undersecretary Ricardo Puno, a close friend of the President, who was recommended for charges by Justice Investigation and Review Committee (IRC) headed by Justice Secretary Leila de Lima for his botching the Petal Park bombings success and Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima, a political ally of the President, who was accused of tax evasion and cleared more people, Lagman said Mr. Aquino chose to appoint all these cases.

RETURN Bishop Jose de Dios Pueblos (center) and other priests pray over Vice President Macapagal-Arroyo during the Mass at a parish Eucharistic and Marian congress in Butuan City, Agusan del Sur, in this file photo.

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Berlongan, Kris S.
Dela Rosa, Roberto Carlo M.
Favorito, Bjone Carlo T.
Galarrgan, John Carlos T.
Go, Elyssa Marie G.
Guzman, William Joseph B.
Magno, Margyver V.
Marasillas, Dino Ricardo L.
Mercado, Michael S.
Pio, Rainier Rommel M.
Ramos, Beizanie J.
Salayer, Adzo A.
Sangalingan, Jamirah Aziz
Sy, John Henry G.
Tabuco, Allan Roger N.
Vitalicio, Jeanne Marie
Velasquez, Ivy Maureen A.

LTO chief on-leave not yet off the book

LUIS Transportation Office (LTO) chief assistant secretary Virginia Torres, who wrote on leave, has yet to be fully cleared in connection with the Stradcom dispute, Malacañang said yesterday.

Presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda said President Aquino was still going through the recommendations of the Department of Justice panel which handled Torres's case.

"We're just reviewing it right now. So there will be an action one way or another," Lacierda said during yesterday's press briefing in Malacañang at the palace.

Asked whether it would be more proper for Torres to return to the LTO after a decision has been made on her fate, Lacierda said the fact-finding process had already been finished.

Lacierda indicated that Torres could no longer do anything to alter the fact-finding.

"Remember, the role there is to present the database. The database is the intellectual property of the government," Lacierda said.

"So she really has to return," she added.

Torres, a shooting buddy of President Aquino, was reportedly the major source which prompted controller Transportation Secretary Jose "Joey" de Jesus to resign from his post.

Mercedes Bordadora

Lawyers welcome GMA as Ampatuan witness

By Jayson T. Gandi

LAWYERS for Maguindanao massacre victims said they were surprised but are "looking forward" to hearing former president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's testimony as a defense witness for massacre suspect Zaldy Ampatuan.

Romel Bangas, lawyer for some of the massacre victims and executive director of the Center for International Law, was reacting to the formal manifestation by one of the Ampatuan lawyers that they intended to present Arroyo, now Pampanga representative, as one of their witnesses.

Gregorio Ilarina, counsel for Andal Ampatuan Sr., had told Judge Jocelyn Solis-Reyes of the court of the potential testimony at the Quezon City trial court on Wednesday that they were putting Arroyo back on their list.

Last year, defense lawyers enabled lapping Arroyo as a witness but later took her off their list.

On her being back on the witness list, Bangas said they were looking forward to seeing her on the witness stand but added that the possible content of her testimony was "nothing new".

Bangas said IAG reporter that Arroyo was expected to testify that Zaldy Ampatuan, the former governor of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao was of the Lakas-Kampi-CMD party in Maguindanao when the massacre of 57 people occurred in Ampatuan town.

Her testimony will be "more for ALL [regional governor]," referring to Zaldy Ampatuan had added.

Combined Bangas: "It's not been seen from the start. [they] didn't have to be present at the killings itself."

Prosecution witnesses, such as Lakwatsero Salao, have testified that Zaldy was present during the planning of the killings, he added.

The pretrial conference for suspects Ampatuan Sr and others is set to continue on June 13.

Meanwhile, Dan Andal Ampatuan Jr., the primary suspect in the massacre, has submitted a motion for partial reconsideration of the judge's decision to throw out as invalid contempt charge the suspect filed against private prosecutor Nelson Indiro.

Regional Trial Court judge Tex Manlito Tayco-Mindalan yesterday found the motion for reconsideration and gave Indiro 10 days to reply.

Indiro, counsel for the Mangudadatus, was accused of breaching the sub judice rule when in a broadsheet article on July 5, 2010, she was quoted as saying the answer for the acquittal of Datumal Ibrahim, the lawyer of a co-accused, was "to warn the families of the victims and of the witnesses of the [24 massacre]."

In dismissing the contempt case in April, Villarosa said the statement was an opinion that "contains nothing that will in any way impede or affect the merit of the case in any way."

But Pedro disagreed. He said Sayno' statement was meant to sway the public and the court's opinion, he argued.

Bangas, on the other hand, said the action of contempt nullified cases being filed against prosecution lawyers since Art "harassment doesn't civilized the prosecution."

6 of 'Morong 43' sue GMA, 10 others

By Jayson T. Gandi

SIX OF THE 43 persons claiming to be health workers who were detained for 10 months by the military on charges of being members of the New People's Army on Thursday applied for a writ of preliminary attachment to the civil action, asking for P25 million in damages in a suit filed against former President Macapagal-Arroyo and 10 security officials.

A writ of preliminary attachment will authorize the court to order the seizing of the defendants' properties "as security for damages" while the civil case is being heard, said 48's Ephraim Cortes, counsel for Dr. Merry Mia Clamor, Dr. Alexis Wenses, Geri Ghosh, Ms. Trevor Quanaryan, Reynaldo Dilakdewan and Rhoyo Castro who were joining the group collectively known as "Morong 43" subsequently freed by President Aquino.

The damage suit, filed at the Quezon City Regional Trial Court branch 220 in April, seeks damages from Mrs. Arroyo, former defense secretary Norberto Gonzales, former Armed Forces chief of staff General Alexo Bacudo, Gen. (ret) Delfin B. Bangit, former commander of the 2nd Infantry Division (ID) General Jorge Segovia, commander of the intelligence unit of the 2nd ID Lieutenant Colonel Cristobal Tampus, 2nd ID's Brigadier Major Manuel Difuan, commander of the 202nd Infantry Battalion (IB) Colonel Aurelio Baladad, 16th IB's commander Lieutenant Colonel Jose Mabanag, and Rizal Provincial Police Office commander Police Superintendent Marion Balking.

If Thursday's hearing, Cortes told Judge Ma. Luisa C. Quijano-Padilla that the six individuals were seeking for a writ of attachment because the defendants "might abscond."

Padilla cautioned that it was unlikely that lawyer, being an elected Pampanga representative, would flee the country. But Cortes said the political climate was "unstable" and "there's no way of holding the defendants."

The civil case seeks payment of damages for torture, violation of constitutional and statutory right, moral damages and exemplary for lawyer's alleged neglect of duty when the 43 persons were "illegally" arrested in Morong, Rizal in February 2010.

Glitch delays passport release

PASSPORT applicants whose passports were supposed to be released Friday will have to wait a little longer to get their documents because of an unexpected printing malfunction.

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) yesterday said applicants affected by the technical glitch were those who applied for passport at the Office of Consular Affairs (OCA) on May 6 onwards.

In a statement, the DFA-OCA said it would extend the validity of passports for one year to those who have urgent travels or in case and were without any appointment.

The delay in the release of the passport booklets was reportedly caused by a "malfunction of the transmission program" which stopped the printing of the booklets.

The DFA-OCA said the maker of the printing equipment, Giesecke Technologies, "is working around the clock to fix the problem" and that the repair will take a few days.

There was no specific date set as to when the passports will be released.

DFA-OCA, however, assured that those with reasons for emergency travel, such as medical reasons, deaths, or overseas Filipinos expiring in week within the next few days might be issued machine-readable passports.

"The OCA requests the general public who has never plans to apply for passport until ahead of time, at least 12 weeks in advance," the statement read in the DFA asked for the public's understanding.

Those with related concerns may call the Passport Inquiries office at 834-7550 or 834-3000 local 2030 up to 32. Julie M. Aurelio

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NEWSBRIEFS

Nachura retires on Monday

Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonio Eduardo Nachura was listed yesterday as confidential by his fellow justices for his retirement on June 12. Supreme Court Chief Justice Renato Corona, former presidents Fidel Ramos and Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Commission on Elections Chair Sixto Brillantes Jr. were among the guests at the retirement ceremony Nachura earlier told reporters that he wanted to take a long vacation and that he was not yet envisioning getting another job or his governorship. "I am not thinking about it (endorsing government service again) right now. I just want to take a rest right now after long years of government service," he said. **Janvic Mateo**

Take a leave, LLDA chief told

A militant fisherfolk group urged Laguna Lake Development Authority chief Reuben Lallana to take a leave of absence to give him room to conduct an investigation into the extortion case in alleged by a Chinese fishpen operator in Laguna Lake. In arguing, "In the interest of public interest, non-disrupt, advise the LLDA chief to take a leave of absence or quit post to allow an honest-to-goodness and objective investigation into the accusations hurled against him," Fernando Hicap, national chair of Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya) said in a statement. The group also urged the government to conduct an independent probe and not an investigation team formed by Cabinet himself and other LLDA officials. **Alexander Calleja**

80 recruiters owe Owwa P143M

LIGATH international and local recruitment agencies face sanctions for failure to pay back the government the expenses of the repatriated Amnesan Filipino Workers from Libya early this year, a labor official said. Overseas Workers Welfare Administration head Carmelita Dimzon said P1.02 million yet to be collected from these agencies, which until now has not responded to the request of the repatriation expenses. "We are giving them two months to reconcile their figures and pay the agency, otherwise we recommend suspension," Dimzon told reporters in Doha, Qatar. Dimzon further said that a task force has been created headed by Labor Attaches Perez for facilitate the immediate collection of the repatriation expenses incurred by the agencies. **Nancy Carvajal**

Shell cargo held in Zambo port

DPENDENTS of the Philippine Coast Guard temporarily confiscated 30 sacks of assorted marine species or scarcge mixed air mats in Zamboanga City on Wednesday night, this a report, the PCG headquarters in Manila said the illegal consignment from Indonesia aboard the Sea Explorer, a wooden-hulled cargo vessel owned and operated by one Nikong Jambali. The vessel was en route to a private wharf in Zamboanga from Balikpapan, Sitar Kalimantan when it was boarded at around 9:45 pm on Wednesday within PCG Zamboanga Station and PCG Field Station Southwestern Mindanao, Lt. Cmdr. Aljon Hizalmeth said the inspection team found 30 sacks containing of Tiger Cowrie Shells, three sacks of Abalone Shells and two cartons of assorted unidentified species of shells with an estimated market value of P450,000 as indicated by a receipt issued by the Office of the Municipal Library of Bongao, Tawi-Tawi. A representative from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources later declared that the marine shells did not belong to the list of prohibited or banned items. **Antonio Colina**

PH lifts deployment ban to Bahrain

THE GOVERNMENT has already lifted the deployment ban to Bahrain after political tensions on the Persian Gulf country subsided, a cooling labor official said. Carlos Caro Jr., Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) chief, told Labor Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz during a meeting this week in Bahrain that Labor Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz signed the circular lifting the deployment ban. Caro said in an interview. He said Baldoz lifted the ban after the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) downgraded the Security Alert Level for Bahrain from Alert level 2 to Alert Level 1. "Alert Level 1 means there is no more danger. Both newly hired and returning workers can be deployed," Caro said. **Philip C. Salaya**

Tips on how to immigrate to Canada

SOLUCIO Filipino workers wishing to immigrate to Canada can learn how to go about the process themselves. A leading immigration consultant—Visa Canada Immigration (http://www.visacanada.com)—has offered to assist Filipinos or teach them how to prepare their own immigration files at a Skilled Worker Program on Saturday at Bayview Hotel, Roxas Boulevard, Manila, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. The session will be conducted by, among others, Kenyon Stephens J. Robert, former member of the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, and Nora Bautista, Canadian immigration consultant. Registrants may call Mr. Aldenando Dental, (0923 3139099 or e-mail bautista at tdsoftware@gmail.com.

Charges readied vs recruiter of executed Pinay drug mule

By Jerome Aning

THE DEPARTMENT of Justice on Friday recommended the filing of charges of illegal recruitment in large scale and drug trafficking against a woman said to be responsible for recruiting convicted drug courier Sally Ordinario-Villanueva, who was executed in China last March.

In an eight-page resolution dated May 18 but released only yesterday, Senior Assistant State Prosecutor Lilian Dora Aleja found probable cause in the complaints against Tita Cayaon filed by the National Bureau of Investigation on behalf of Villanueva's brother Jayson Ordinario, their mother Imelda and three others.

"It is such as respondent Cayaon procured to recruit/promised overseas employment to the aforementioned complainants, despite the fact that she is not licensed to do so, and purchased plane tickets for them, there is probable cause to hold her liable violation of Section 6 of Republic Act No. 8042 (Migrant Workers act of 1995) as amended. And since the complainants are more than three persons, the offense is deemed to have committed in large scale," the resolution said.

The Ordinarios and the other complainants Ironnie Abuyan, Melba Salazar-Bitogon and Jennifer Lanto—all relatives and/or neighbors in Iloilo—claimed that Cayaon recruited or acted to recruit them to be drug couriers to China, South America and Malaysia from 2009 to 2010.

Bitogon said that in March 2010, she was able to smuggle to China several grams of cocaine in the form of ding sag, rubs that she was made to swallow.

"The fact of respondent Cayaon in grabs 9 (3 separate remaining claim A) matches (one of the complainants) for the latter to swallow and later transport out of the country constitutes a violation of Section 5 of RA 9165 (Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002)," Aleja said in her resolution.

The preliminary investigation revealed that Cayaon purchased the plane tickets for her "recruits" from the Wimbeck Travel and Tours, in Sta. Cruz, Manila. Sr. Inspector Ulysses Gonzales confirmed the plane ticket purchases made by Cayaon.

Ordinario was sent to China in December 2008 as a mobile phone dealer. Cocaine gave her US$500 to pocket money and a suitcase. She was arrested at the Xiamen Airport after authorities found four kilos of cocaine hidden in her suitcase.

Villanueva and two other Filipinos convicted of drug trafficking, Elizabeth Batain and Ramon Credo, were executed by lethal injection on March 30 by Chinese authorities.

The prosecutor recommended Cayaon's denial that the complainants were not overseas Filipinos workers so she can't be charged with illegal recruitment.

Also cited in the crime of illegal recruitment under RA 8042 were the mere act of offering or promising overseas employment that is done in violation of the country's labor laws.

DOT chief wants clean restrooms for tourists

TOURISM SECRETARY Alberto Lim is appealing to all establishes to provide clean restrooms for their guests or customers for the benefit of visitors responding to popular tourist destinations.

"We are requesting the help of all establishes to provide clean and well maintained restrooms in their particular sites, especially those in secondary highways, as their cooperation in our 'Pilipinas, Yan Na!' domestic tourism campaign," said Lim.

The tourism chief also thanked Gov. Bevilla for Senate bill No. 322, otherwise known as the Land Transport Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) to ensure the establishment of restroom facilities for Hygiene and Convenience bill, restrooms should be constructed in every 30 to 50 kilometers down the national and provincial highways to ensure safety. The bill is still being redrafted in the Senate for further study and fine-tuning.

Lim considers this as a very welcome development as it aims to make traveling by land more comfortable for tourists.

"We are pleased to have counterparts in the Senate and House of Representatives like Sen. Bevilla, Hopefully, this will also encourage domestic travel among locals who won't have to travel with aching bladder since we have restrooms every 30 kilometers," he said.

In general, these restrooms are available in gas stations along the expressways but it is lacking in other secondary highways. Major oil players are Shell, Chevron, and Petron, independent oil players are Flying-V, Phoenix, Seaoil, Unioil, and Eastern Petroleum, among others.

Lim said the bill was a good start for the Philippines where tourism infrastructure and facilities have to be improved in preparation for its thrust to accommodate 4 million tourists by 2016.

In the US, rest areas are provided along their highways to let travelers rest, eat and refuel. Each rest area has restrooms, a gas station, public area, pay telephones and a convenience store.

In a related development, Lim said that he expects more jobs to be created as more government officials spread the culture of tourism through their respective bailiwicks. President Aquino's instruction to reduce poverty and really improve the lives of marginalized Filipinos.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

JUNE 11 (Saturday)
Psalter: Proper
Semidium
Ps 98:1, 2, 3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6
The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.
1st Reading: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3

The hand of the Lord was with them as there grew number believed and turned to the Lord.

News of this reached the ears of the Church in Jerusalem, so they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he arrived and saw the manifest signs of God's favor, he rejoiced and urged them all to remain firmly faithful to the Lord with purpose of heart. He himself was a good man filled with Holy Spirit and faith. Thus large crowds were won for the Lord.

Then Barnabas went off to Tarsus to look for Saul and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they had meetings with the Church and instructed many people. It was in Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians.

There were at Antioch in the Church which was there prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon known as Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod, and Saul. He was occasion, while they were celebrating the Lord's liturgy, the Holy Spirit said to them, Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work I have called them." So, after fasting and praying, they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

Gospel: Mt 10:7-12

Jesus said to his disciples, "Go and proclaim this message: The kingdom of heaven is near. Heal the sick, bring the dead back to life, cleanse the lepers, and drive out demons. You received this as a gift, so give it as a gift. Do not carry any gold, silver or copper in your purses. Do not carry a bag for the journey, or two coats, or sandals, or walking stick: workers deserve their keeping.

"When you come to a town or a village, look for a worthy person and stay there until you leave.

"As you enter the house, salute it peace. If the people in the house deserve it, your peace will be on them; if they do not deserve it, your blessing will come back to you."

Reflection:

Our mandate is clear: to proclaim in words and deeds that God's kingdom is at hand. In this sense, we are to be more spiritual. Ask the sacred orphans and clarify our status, while our actions reinforce our words. That Jesus servants should live integral lives wherein words and deeds meet and match. Let us walk the talk and not delay such hypocrisy. The kingdom of God is here coming to our feet.

Daily Gospel Commentary Compilation. Fr. J. Bloomer, S. J. (P. Village, Dasmariñas, Cavite City, (046) 481-1444 & Fr. Lambert Lim (Quezon City, (02) 426-6060. Fax No.: (02) 426-6060. E-mail: jesuitbloomer@yahoo.com / lambertlim@yahoo.com. Official Site of the Society of Jesus in the Philippines: http://www.philippines.sj.org (Christian Reflections for the Philippines)

Ahead. WHERE WE PLACE YOU.

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SCHEDULE OF ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS: 8:00 a.m., Saturday, June 25 & July 2, 2011

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PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
Bureau of Fisheries Road, Bayombong
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INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The DENR-PENRO, Nueva Vizcaya through its BAC-Goods and Awards Committee (BAC), invites prospective bidders/applicants/contractors to apply for eligibility and, if appropriate, to bid for the following, to wit:

Name of Project/Contract	Mahawi Community Program – Dwelling Improvement
Location	Mahawi, Nagtipunan, Quirino
Brief Description	Construction of 1 unit Dwelling of Typhoon Yolanda Victim/Survivor (with complete specifications and BOQ)
Approved Budget for the Contract	P50,000.00
Source of Funds	Mahawi Community Program
Contract Duration	Forty (40) – Calendar days (Lot 1)
Delivery/Completion	Forty (40) days
Date of Posting	Forty (40) days

Bidding shall be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures as stipulated in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 9184 otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act". Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183.

Interested prospective contractors may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below during office hours from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. A complete set of bidding documents may be acquired by interested bidders on the date of the publication of this Invitation from the BAC Secretariat upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P1,000.00 for the bidding documents.

Only those bidders who have paid the applicable fee will be allowed to bid. The bidder must submit a valid Mayor's/Business Permit (Municipal License) and Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) License and Registration for the type and cost of the contract he intends to bid. The bidder must also submit a valid Income/Business Tax Return (ITR) for the year 2010. Prospective bidders must submit their Eligibility Documents (Class "A" Documents) on or before 10:00 AM of the last publication date. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted.

The Bids and Awards Committee reserves the right to reject any or all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract without incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

Activities to be Undertaken	Schedules
1. Invitation to Bid/Publication	May 09, 2011 to June 01, 2011
2. Pre-bid conference	June 01, 2011 @ 10:00 AM
3. Submission of Letter of Intent & Eligibility Documents	May 09, 2011 to June 01, 2011
4. Opening of Bids	June 01, 2011 @ 10:00 AM
5. Bid Evaluation	June 01, 2011
6. Post-qualification	June 01, 2011
7. Notice of Award	June 01, 2011

The DENR-PENRO, Nueva Vizcaya and the members of the Bids and Awards Committee shall not be responsible for any misunderstanding that may arise from the failure of the bidder to receive any notice, decision or document sent by the BAC through mail or other means.

Approved by:

[illegible]
PENRO Officer
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Edita Burgos brings case of missing son to DOJ

By Marlon Ramos

EDITA BURGOS yesterday brought her crusade in find her missing son Jonas to the Department of Justice.

In a 13-page complaint-affidavit, Burgos accused three Major Party Listings of arbitrary detention based on the findings of the Commission on Human Rights (CHR), identifying him as Jonas' "primary abductor."

Jonas, then 27, was taken by unidentified armed men from a restaurant inside The Fort Ortigas Mall in Crossroads Avenue, Quezon City on April 28, 2007. He has not been heard of since.

Bargos, wife of the late press freedom icon and anti-Marcos publisher Jose Burgos, Jadgal the same complaint against Lt. Col. Melquiades Feliciano, Col. Eduardo Ano and several unidentified soldiers.

She also accused former Armed Forces chiefs of staff Hermogenes Esperon and Alexander Yano, retired Lt. Gen. Romeo Tolentino and retired Philippine National Police chief Avelino Razon of violating Presidential Decree 1829 for falsely testifying before the Court of Appeals.

"The filing of this case is just one of the many steps we're taking in locating my son and arresting parties for him," Burgos told the reporters.

The military has repeatedly denied involvement in the abduction and claimed that Jonas could be a victim of recruitment gangsters.

In their search for him, Jonas' family sought a writ of amparo from the appellate court, but it was denied due insufficiency of evidence.

The Supreme Court had ordered the CHR to conduct a full probe on Jonas' disappearance and rebuked the police and military for their inactivity in investigating the incident.

Bishops worried by new Cha-Cha talks

By Jocelyn R. Uy

CATHOLIC bishops yesterday renewed angst in fresh talks about amending the Constitution, saying lawmakers might go beyond limiting changes to the charter's economic provisions.

"Instead of calling for a charter change, why not just amend its economic provisions?" suggested Manila Auxiliary Bishop Broderick Pabillo in a phone interview with reporters yesterday.

The bishops were reacting to a disclosure by Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile on Thursday that he and Speaker Feliciano Belmonte had agreed to prioritize on the need for deliberations on the amendments to the Constitution at the resumption of Congress session next month.

But Enrile emphasized that the charter-change debate must be limited to constitution provisions restricting foreign ownership of certain industries and exhaustively probe to revise the political structure of the country.

Pabillo, chair of the Catholic bishops' National Secretariat for Social Action, said he was worried that lawmakers pushing for a revision of the Constitution would go beyond their pronouncement that amendments would be confined to economic policies.

He proposed that lawmakers must talk only about amendments to the Constitution's economic provisions to pave the way for enrolled ad hoc instead of moving for a total change of the Constitution.

Cubao-san Bishop Socrates Villegas refused Pabillo's concerns, but said he would like to look at the proposed revisions.

"Let us follow what reasons they will put up and then let us weigh their relevancy to the society," said Villegas, also chair of the Catholic bishops' Public Affairs Committee.

For his part, Cotabato Bishop Jose Colin Bagaforo said he would have charter-change only if lawmakers entertained themselves to limiting revisions to the Constitution's economic provisions.

"Of course if we only can depend upon issues such as those concerning the economic provisions... if not, then we should just go by the existing amendments process in Congress," said Bagaforo in a separate interview yesterday.

Outstanding UP alumni to be awarded on June 25

FORTY outstanding graduates including Vice President Jejomar Binay and one alumni chapter of the University of the Philippines will receive Gawad Plaridel awards from the UP Alumni Association (UPAA) for 2011.

The award ceremonies will be held during the UP general alumni faculty homecoming and reunion on June 25 slated for 3 p.m. at Bulwagang Alumni, UP Diliman campus, Quezon City.

The UPAA Distinguished Alumni awards are conferred on alumni who have demonstrated in their fields of endeavor preeminent achievement and excellence, thus bring substantial benefits to society and distinct honor to the university.

Binay is this year's Most Distinguished Alumni Awardee. Antonio P. Gimenez Dizon, Jose R. Mercado Guingona Jr., Francisco Ibiga and Baldomero M. Olivera will be recognized for lifetime achievement.

"Like we did last year, we made a special effort to identify young alumni achievers who, while among the best in their fields, are somewhere in the corners of the country are remarkable but have remained unheralded and unrecognized," UPAA president Gladys Tiongco said in a statement.

The 10 other awardees for outstanding achievement are: Danilo V. Punzalan, agricultural engineering; Lanelia B. Gruz-Valdez, broadcast journalism; Ben R. Resabello, chemical engineering; Bernito B. Arig-Soo, community development and responsibility; Robert H. Lu, community service;

Ricardo V. Zamora, Armand C. Hanal, Dante Nuno, Raul C. Navarro, and Arnold V. Yang, all for culture and the arts;

Abdul Ener C. Dumagan and Lino L. Dizon, both for educational innovation; Daniel G. Bolong and Ruben O. Alingog, both for entrepreneurship and employment creation; Elarina S. Eduardo-Reyes and Deogracias Victor B. Savellano, both for good governance.

Dr. Francisca A. Tabio-Mesh, global health and medical education; Dr. Elmer L. Primo JR. maritime health; global health; Ann C. Intelinan, Jr. maritime enforcement cooperation for industrial peace and harmony; Leandro G. Santos-Abesamis, poverty alleviation and human development; Ms. Isabel S. Echavez-Melgar, public health innovation; Fortunato T. dela Pena and Isidoro J. Medina, public service;

Cristina P. Patel, Aroldis A. Mejia, Secretary Mario G. Montejo, Danilo C. Cardenas, and Bonifacio P. Consuelo-ano Jr., all for science and technology;

Ramon O. Ramirez and Jo-Ann Cabilzo C. Pagsuhan-Lopez, both for social education; and Josefina E. Alcantara, women empowerment.

Special awards will be given to individuals or organizations who have rendered excellent service in the pursuit of the goals of the university and the association.

The Distinguished Service award for alumni will go to Francisco L. Lacsamana and Consuelo Ding Bi. The UPAA Australia-New South Wales chapter will also be recognized.

The Special Recognition Awardees are Shamcey G. Supaat, for bagging the year's Binibining Pilipinas-Universe title, and John Gabriel P. Peliaa, for achieving a weighted grade average of 1.008, the highest in UP in 65 years.

For inquiries, call the UPAA Secretariat at 920-5873, 926-0861 local 103/104/105 or (0917) 8552696, or e-mail upalum@yahoo.com.ph.

Corrections

IN EARLIER EDITIONS OF THE JUNE 8 ISSUE, the banner story... "Mar accepts DENR post"... misstated the title of a Bolt Mechatech entity. The script's title is "Frame and Board and Planers"... not "Trains and Buses and Planes."

IN THE JUNE 10 ISSUE, a caption accompanying a photo on Page B6 of the Business section mistakenly identified former de Manila University president Fr. Jett Villarin S.J. as former Law School dean Cesar Villanueva.

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Readers may send their requests for corrections/clarifications to be written in this box, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PSI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Blanche Street, Makati City, fax line, 897-57-93-94; e-mail address: opinion@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent to the Publisher's e-mail address: publisher@inquirer.com.ph or fax line, 897-57-93-94; then The Publisher's phone number is 897-1000 local 800.

DOJ reinstates criminal raps vs Chinese poachers

By Jerome Aning

AS THE diplomatic row between China and the Philippines heats up, the Department of Justice yesterday reinstated criminal charges against seven Chinese fishermen caught last year fishing illegally and poaching marine endangered species in the disputed territory of the Spratly Islands.

In a resolution, Justice Secretary Leila de Lima reversed a ruling dated June 29, 2006, by her predecessor, Alberto Agra, that ordered the Palawan provincial office to withdraw the charges against Huang Fu, Hu Ta, Hy Song, Song Ji, Ho Yong, Lin Hing and Ho Jy.

The seven were up a fishing boat, the Jiang Hong Hai 08022, that was captured by the Coast Guard on May 27, 2005, some 46 miles northwest of Subic Island, which is in the waters of the Spratlys but well within the 200-mile exclusive economic zone claimed by the Philippines.

Other fishermen and members of the crew escaped in smaller boats. The seven who were captured were brought to the provincial capital of Puerto Princesa and charged in the provincial prosecutor's office.

Initial from the boat were various fishing paraphernalia used for capturing marine turtles, including hooks of nets, cotton like stuffing materials and formaldehyde. The boat was also equipped with a built-in aquarium designed to hold live marine animals for long periods, according to investigators.

Indictment reversed

The prosecutors appeared the charges of violations of Republic Act No. 8550, or the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998, and RA 9147, or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001.

However, Agra reversed the indictment and ordered the charges withdrawn, saying the respondents had no criminal intent to violate Philippine laws when they were preparing in Philippine waters.

Since the respondents were under the impression that they were not inside Philippine territory, they had no criminal intent to commit a violation of Philippine laws, Agra argued.

The complainants—the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Palawan Bgl. Pacland Council and the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development—filed a motion for reconsideration.

De Lima did not seem to the resolution why it took her security a year to act on the motion.

"Fishing inside Philippine waters is not immoral or illicit in itself and, therefore, not malum in se (wrong or evil in itself). However, it becomes illegal when it transgresses special laws and prohibitions set by the government. Fishing or collecting our aquatic resources is allowed for as long as they follow the restrictions set by law," De Lima said.

The said criminal intent was not necessary to come to a conviction, that RA 9147 and RA 8550 were violated by the respondents.

Tried to evade arrest

"What is important is that DOJ respondents were caught fishing poaching within our territorial waters, in violation of our laws and that when apprehended, they tried to evade arrest," De Lima said.

The justice secretary ordered the provincial prosecutor to refile the case against the respondents if it has not been withdrawn, and report on the to reconsider within 15 days.

It is not known if the Chinese fishermen are still detained or have already been set free.

Chinese envoy's 'posturing undiplomatic'

By Christine Esguerra and D.K. Catanangan Jr.

SEN. FRANCIS Pangilinan yesterday urged the government not to bow down to pressure from China, reacting to the Chinese ambassador's Thursday statement.

"We should not be bullied by this undiplomatic posturing," he said in a statement.

"The Philippines has a long history of freedom and peaceful struggle against tyranny and the misuse of power. We will never allow any superpower to bully us into submission," Pangilinan said.

"China's statement that official navigation must first seek its permission in moving about these disputed waters is high-handedness and arrogance that is unnecessary if indeed a peaceful resolution is what we all seek. They talk peace yet they do so with arrogance and high-handedness," he said.

Two options

Bantayan Rep. Rudolfo Summa, chair of the House committee on national defense and security, said the Philippines has two options to resolve the Spratlys issue peacefully and avoid tensions from escalating—take the issue to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) or the United Nations (UN).

Biazon said the government could take up the issue at the Asean + 1 second ministerial meeting. "Ang agreement ho [ever cooperation with the region which include a code of conduct, or cause the case at the United Nations which oversees the Convention on the Law of the Sea."

"These mechanisms should be pursued instead of agreeing to propositions to strengthen the Philippine military which would only provoke China into making more hostile intrusions in the area," he said in a statement yesterday.

Eastern Samar Rep. Ben Evardone said the Asean and the UN should already come to the direct off the resolution of the diplomatic row between the Philippines and a fellow Asean member, Vietnam, against China.

"Bringing verbal attacks and counterattacks should be avoided by all parties. I think a declaration of a media cease-fire is necessary to prevent a conflagration," said Evardone in a text message.

'It's West Philippine Sea'; Aquino gov't, AFP use it, not S. China Sea

From page A1

The islands are claimed in whole or in part by Brunei, China, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam.

Based on history

Lacanilao said the Palace was taking its cue from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) which has been using "West Philippine Sea" in the name of letters and notes verbales protesting China's incursion into areas that the DFA claims were well within Philippine territory.

The DFA notes explained that using "West Philippine Sea" is to refer to the waters where the disputed territories in the "Kalayaan Island Group" as well as in the Philippine island of Scarborough Shoal, are located.

The name matter "have long been called Dupit Lanes, or Luzon Sea by our fisherfolk and the rest of our people, and related to or such is published maps since time immemorial after the major Philippine island of Luzon," DFA spokesperson Eduardo Malaya explained earlier.

"On the other hand, South China Sea in Chinese is simply South Sea, while for the Vietnamese it is East Sea," he said.

Malaysia pretty the member Walter Bello has filed House Resolution No. 1358 proposing to officially name the region the "West Philippine Sea" to "strengthen the Philippines's claim as the internationally narrow and the country's sovereign based within."

Sublimal message

Yesterday, the Armed Forces weighed in saying it has deliberately been using West Philippine Sea to refer to the area.

"What's in a name, but when people keep saying that it is the South China Sea, there is a subliminal message that this is indeed a sea belonging to a country whose name appears in the name," said Commander Miguel Jose Bacordo, the AFP deputy chief of staff for civil military operations who is also the military spokesperson.

'Kalayaan Sea'

Vietnam calls it their East Sea and China calls it their South Sea. We in the Philippines should call it West Philippine Sea," he said.

Rodrigues (Philippine Military Academy Class of 1980) recalled that in the 1970s, they were taught to refer to the area as "Kalayaan Sea" based on a newly issued presidential decree at the time creating the area claimed by the Philippines as the Kalayaan Island group, or the "Lawak Sea" or "West Palawan Sea."

The United States yesterday called on the Asian countries fighting for control of the Spratlys to resolve the issue peacefully.

The Ambassador Harry Thomas (Deborah Hawerley (Robert) Gates and other US officials have said, we urge all claimants to exercise restraint in dealing with competing claims in the South China Sea. "Disputes need to be resolved peacefully within the framework of international law," said Ambassador Thompson, US Embassy press attaché, in a statement apparently issued in response to Lin's warning.

Rules-based approach

The DFA yesterday reiterated the Philippines' rules-based approach to ending the dispute.

It has proposed the concept of a Zone of Peace, Freedom, Friendship and Cooperation in which disputed territories could be recognized from undisputed areas as provided under international law.

"The Philippines has offered a spirit to transcend disputes for the creation of deliverances and the pursuit of cooperation in the form of the ZOPFFC," said Malaya.

In the ZOPFFC, the disputed islands could be "enclaved" by separating them and adjacent waters from the rest of the waters of the South China Sea.

The DFA has said the enclaved area could be developed via a Joint Cooperation Area (JCA) where joint activities could be conducted, such as marine scientific research, search and rescue operations, oil spill preparedness and conservation projects.

Defense posture

AFP Chief Gen. Eduardo Oban Jr. said the military is careful to "avoid any miscalculation" that would provoke open hostilities in the Spratlys.

Speaking at the Manila Overseas Press Club forum on Thursday, Oban said the military has been keeping an "active defense posture" following China's incursions this year into Philippine waters.

"If a Chinese vessel or any foreign vessel becomes hostile to us or to the point of shooting at our own people, then we have to shoot back. We try to avoid that," said Oban, a former Air Force fighter pilot.

Presence as deterrence

"We just hope that won't escalate further because I think we will maintain our presence as a deterrent to incursions," he said.

While there have been no incursions from China, the military also recorded "many" incursions from Vietnam, he said.

China said the Philippines' diplomatic protest against the Chinese incursions were backed by reports from military field units.

Despite the ongoing spat with China, Oban does not consider the tensions serious.

"I give a low rating. Diplomacy is still ongoing. Tensions is to 10 in terms of the environment based on the incursions because of the statements made by (Chinese Defense Minister) Gen. Liang Guanglie. That's open warning. (But) they're open for a peaceful resolution of the conflict," he said. With reports from Jerry E. Esplanada and Aaliyah M. Anabito

They drove 400 km to impress P-Noy: 36 vehicles loaded to illegal logs

From page A1

Cagayan Valley has received more than 400 kilometers in an effort to prove to President Aquino that his officials are doing something to fight illegal logging in the region, where locally-based policies still thrive.

On Thursday, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Cagayan Valley confiscated the truck to the agency's main office in Quezon City on the vehicles and their loads that were supposed to be presented to the President next week.

DENR regional director Ben Jamon Tumolbon had earlier issued a memorandum directing the transport of Quezon City of 4x4 confiscated trucks, vans and passenger in the inventory, along with their load, as evidence of law enforcement Secretary Ramon Paje.

The vehicles and their load, which made up the seizures made by the DENR from January 2011 to June 2011, are to be presented by Paje to Mr. Aquino, supposedly to highlight the agency's accomplishments, Tumolbon said.

'Minimal' expense

Asked how much the DENR had allocated for the transport of the seized vehicles and loads, Bernardo Blanco, DENR regional technical director for forestry, did not give a specific figure.

But he said the amount spent by the government for the trip was "minimal."

Of the 37 seized vehicles, 33 are from the DENR-offices in Cagayan and Isabela (22 units), two from Quirino, and one from Nueva Vizcaya, according to records.

But only 36 of the 47 vehicles left for the two-day trip to the Thursday afternoon. Malaki said the others broke down and were considered unfit to make the journey.

While on the road yesterday, two more hogged down in Santa Fe, further reducing the fleet to 34 vehicles, he said.

For those who need it

Blanco said he confronted reporters and former officials local officials in Nueva Vizcaya, according to reports.

He said the DENR had allocated for the transport of the seized vehicles and loads, without those who need it.

Tumolbon said the vehicles carried a total load of 358 cubic meters of timber illegally cut from the forests of Cagayan, Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya and Quirino.

He said 252 cubic meters of lumber (108,000 board feet) had earlier been donated to the Department of Education for the repair of school buildings damaged by recent typhoons.

But as the convoy was making its way to Quezon City, an undetermined volume of timber had to be unloaded at a DENR outpost in Bellac, Santa Fe Nueva Vizcaya on Thursday night.

Tumolbon said DENR officials had analyzed that the load carried by some of the vehicles might be too heavy, making the ascent to Bellac Pass of the Nueva Vizcaya-Nueva Ecija border difficult.

THE GOOD LIFE Celebrity architect Aidee Mendoza is on top of the renovation of the multi-million-peso house in North Forbes Park, Makati City reportedly bought by world boxing champion and Sarangani Rep. Manny Pacquiao.

Pacquiao moves to Forbes but not 'Mommy D'

From page A1

I'm sure you nobody would have an idea about the cost of a Forbes Park house."

"He can very well afford to buy a house in Forbes Park," he added.

New neighbors

Felipe Gozon, chief and CEO of the GMA-7 television network who is a Forbes Park resident, is happy to count Pacquiao as a neighbor. "It will be an honor to be his neighbor. He is the answer to our village," he said.

Pacquiao will also have to new neighbors Sen. Loren Legarda, Interaction Tsuboy Cojuangco and the Thai ambassador to the Philippines.

Gozon said he had heard that Pacquiao was eyeing a 5,000-square-meter property in neighboring Dasmariñas Village.

"But if he becomes my neighbor, that would be a great privilege. He is a world-class celebrity," he said.

Pacquiao "makes us proud to be Filipinos," said Gozon, whose network is preparing a new TV show for the boxer to replace his old sitcom, "Show Me Da Money."

"No one else has achieved Pacquiao's historic accomplishments of eight division championships. He made boxing popular in the country. As a result, we are now discovering other talented athletes who are following in his footsteps. He encourages everyone to do well and stay away from the vices," Gozon said.

Good investment

According to a source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, the "deal will soon be finalized."

But he said the cost of the property is actually lower, "the rumored price is exaggerated."

"I think he has made a good investment in the Forbes Park property. It's a new, modern house. They need a lot of space because they have quite a lot of people in their staff," the source said.

But will Mommy Dionisia be moving in with the Pacquiaos?

"I believe Mommy Dionisia won't move to Makati because she has her own mansion in General Santos," the source said.

"Manny built a house for her Dad's cronies at his own house in the province," he said.

Filson Dong, president of Solar Entertainment which broadcasts Pacquiao's prizefights in the country, said the boxer "does not to own a house in Forbes Park. Imagine how painful each pound he gets in the ring."

"Based on his earnings, he can afford to buy nine mansions, palaces. He must record fight alone ensured him a guaranteed purse of $20 million (almost P860 million)," Dong ensured another source.

Drop in the bucket

Whether campaigned or not, the reported relocation of the Forbes Park house is just a drop in the bucket of the fabled Pacquiao wealth.

Forever reports put Pacquiao as the richest legislator in the land. He's the only billionaire in Congress, according to an income report.

The Sarangani congressman's net worth stood at P1.1 billion as of Dec. 31, 2010, according to the statement of assets and liabilities and net worth he filed with the House of Representatives.

His assets at the time included P107.9 million in real properties and P730.3 million in personal and other properties. He has no liabilities.

These figures do not yet include his earnings from his last fight.

The two-time reported that Pacquiao stand to earn P1.2 billion ($30 million) from the Mosley fight, which he won.

This is because apart from the guaranteed purse of $20 million, Pacquiao would get a percentage of the pay-per-view buys, shared earnings, tickets, gate receipts and merchandise sales, according to Top Rank's Bob Arum, the promoter of the fight.

Pacquiao also gets a considerable income from endorsement deals here and abroad. He competes company Hewlett-Packard Inc. hired him as participation for $1 million.

He is also a prized talent of the ABS-CBN network.

6 'Garci Boys' still holding key positions in Comelec

From page A1

Iumalipao had been described as a protege of former Comelec Commissioner Virgilio "Garci" Garcillano, who helped arrive at a supposed effort to manipulate the results of the 2004 presidential elections in favor of then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Iumalipao was also supposedly among the Comelec officials who had dinner with lawyer-in-law lawyer at La Vista restaurant in Quezon City in January 2006, three months before the elections. The group allegedly received huge sums during the affair. Iumalipao has denied the allegations.

Gyrostso also identified five other officials implicated in the cheating scandal who, he said, are still with the Comelec.

They are Rowaldo Macaambalan, chief of the election and campaign affairs division; Renato Magbanua, Region X director; Teopisto Elnar Jr., a director at Mindanao's division; Carlo Welch Jr., Comelec supervisor for Surigao del Sur; and Francisco Pobre, acting director for the Caraga region.

CA hearing

Gyrostso cited the continued presence in the Comelec of Iumalipao and company in opposing the confirmation of veteran election lawyer Atty. Brillantes Jr. as Comelec chair during a Commission on Appointments hearing earlier this week. The commission bypassed Brillantes' appointment.

Gyrostso noted that despite the issues raised against Iumalipao, Brillantes still tapped him to "oversee preparations" for the 2011 ARMM elections.

The regional poll was supposed to take place on Aug. 8 but Malacañang succeeded in securing congressional consent to postpone and synchronize there with the 2013 elections.

Why Sumalipao?

"When you said you were preparing for the ARMM polls before we passed a law to postpone it to 2013, I have to question why you not only chose to go manual but even chose Atty. Iumalipao to handle it. What will the prevention be based on that?" Gyrostso told Brillantes at the hearing.

Gyrostso asked Brillantes why he had not initiated a formal investigation into the "Hello, Garci" scandal in the five months he had been Comelec chair.

"You have to tell who was involved and where they (are) now. You cannot use due process as a reason because the President did not appoint you to be one the lawyer of those officials in question," Gyrostso said.

No cases against them

Brillantes, in a phone interview, denied crediting Dio so-called "Garci boys."

"I don't know any of them and I'm not aware of any case filed against them. Garcillano himself hasn't been jailed. How much more they?" Brillantes said.

Iumalipao has denied involvement in all fraud efforts to rig election results in Mindanao in favor Arroyo.

Gyrostso, in his statement, did not spell out the specific acts which the Comelec official/s did/s that led during the 2004 polls.

Missing poll officer

Senator Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr., citing media reports, had said Magbanua was the one who informed Garcillano of the disappearance of a Bicolano election official carrying certificates of canvass and election returns.

Magbanua reportedly suggested that family members of the missing poll official be kidnapped so he is the officer to surface. Pimentel claimed.

Pobre is said to have identified himself as "Benny" in the "Hello, Garci" tapes, while Macaambalan was supposedly announced by Garcillano in the same tapes as his "point man," according to Pimentel.

In 2007, then Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos said the Comelec officials identified with Garcillano had been investigated by the Senate but were never charged with any offense.

Abalos also said no Comelec official had ever been charged with any wrongdoing in relation to the "Hello, Garci" scandal. With reports from Aurora Armas and Inquirer Research

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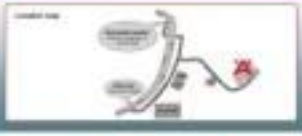

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DTI appeals to bakers not to hike bread prices

By Abigail L. Ho

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry is asking bakers to hold off from increasing the prices of loaf bread and pan de sal if flour prices do see increases next month.

In an interview with reporters, Trade Secretary Gregory Domingo said flour millers had given their assurance that flour prices would remain stable, or lower this month.

"If flour prices don't increase, and our expectation is that it won't increase in the coming month, we're hoping that bakers will not increase bread prices as well," he said.

Last month, Philippine Baking Industry Group president Walter Ty said it was "likely" that bakers would be raising prices of bread products this month due to higher flour prices.

He said the current price of flour ranged from P920-P950 per 25 kilogram bag, lowering dangerously close to the all-time high price of P999 a bag recorded in 2008.

This price range, he said, was too high for bakers to continue bearing for long.

But Victorio Dimagiba, director of the Department of Trade and Industry's Bureau of Trade Regulation and Consumer Protection, said this was still within the "reasonable" range.

In an earlier interview, he said the expectation that world wheat prices would start to go down in April did not materialize, which increased flour prices to stay above the P900-a-bag level.

World wheat prices declined in March, but this downward trend was not sustained the following month, as expected, he explained. Instead, wheat prices rebounded in April.

In May, while prices were down, there had not gone down enough to cause local flour prices to fall.

Right now, world wheat prices are again moving up.

Meanwhile, Domingo said some increases in commodity prices, particularly those of vegetables, meat, and poultry, were temporary and were likely fuelled by a drop in demand due to the Sabbath.

Prices should stabilize in the next two weeks, he said.

More kids used in drug trade

By DJ Yu

MORE and more children are being used by drug syndicates in their activities to circumvent the juvenile justice law which prevents minors from being jailed, the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) said on Friday.

PDEA Director General Jose S. Gutierrez Jr. said drug syndicates are taking advantage of Section 6 of Republic Act 9344, or the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006, which exempts children 15 years old and below from any criminal liability.

Under that law, minors arrested for involvement in illegal drug activities are turned over to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

In a statement, Gutierrez noted an "increasing incidence" in the involvement of minors in illegal drug activities.

From 2003 to 2011, a total of 954 minors, aged seven to seventeen, have been arrested for violating Republic Act 9165, or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, PDEA records showed.

"This year alone, 81 minors have already been apprehended by authorities for violating the anti-drug law," the agency said.

PDEA said 34 percent of the arrested minors were found to have been used by drug syndicates as pushers. "Some were even discovered to be cultivating marijuana plants [while] others [were] working in clandestine laboratories," the agency said.

It also found that the minors' involvement in illegal drug activities was most prevalent in Metro Manila and in Central Visayas.

Isolated development... a 17-year old boy who was arrested with two adult drug pushers was turned over to the DSWD yesterday.

Gutierrez said that although he is a minor, he will be criminally liable under RA 9344 if the court finds that he acted with discernment in violating the anti-drug law.

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Kalinga gov faces probe

KALINGA Gov. Jocel Bitan, who is facing a probe for assembling a radio broadcaster in Tabuk City, could find himself in deeper trouble after the interior department indicated it might also investigate his alleged vulgar remarks from it. He "[serving] illegal warrants" points in the province.

Interior Secretary Jesse M. Robredo said he might order a separate investigation into the governor's alleged cursing remarks, which were the subject of counter-claims of libel on-line Tabuganen before Tuesday's attack.

"If it is part of the complaint (it will be investigated.) But probably we will conduct a separate investigation," Robredo said in a text message.

But he said there has been "no report, complaint, evidence" yet linking the governor to harming.

Robredo earlier ordered the Philippine National Police to investigate the assault on Tabuganen by Bitan and his bodyguards inside the station's radio booth in Tabuk City, Kalinga.

Robredo said the probe should determine if the attack against Tabuganen "was prompted by the latter's response to radio on the governor's alleged involvement in jueteng and illegal logging operations in the province."

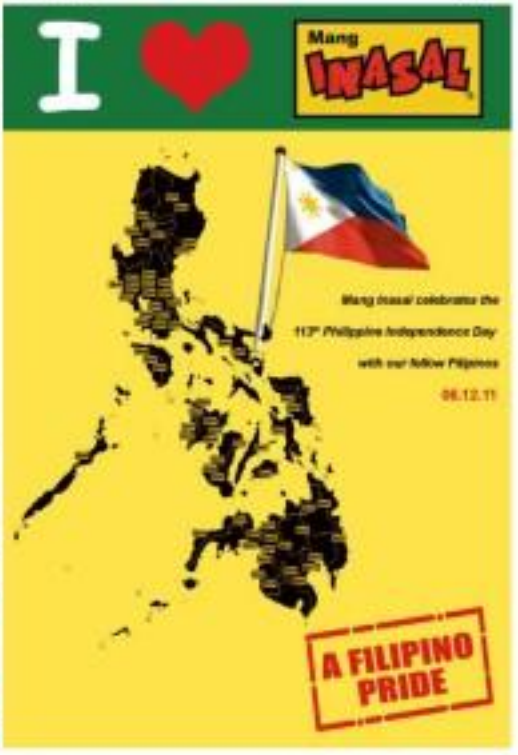
Tabuganen was hosting his noontime show "Agenda Dan 2" when Bitan, accompanied by five aides, barged into the booth, grabbed a microphone and slammed it on a table, took a second microphone and hit him on the face.

The assault was caught on video by a newspaper reporter that was streaming the radio broadcast online.

Reports indicated that on May 24, some unidentified men had tried to bust the DOE establishment, prompting local police to secure the area.

Robredo had ordered the police to submit to his office the results of its findings and recommendations against Bitan and his bodyguards within 72 hours.

14 Sep



INQUIRER

OPINION

Sclerotic

THE "STENS, the arteries of the body to move products and people all across our country" is how former vice presidential candidate Mar Roxas describes, accurately if rather grandiosely, the office he is set to assume at the Department of Transportation and Communications, following the resignation of Secretary Jose de Jesus.

EDITORIAL

"The DOTC is a support service, a utility service. An uneventful day means everything is running smoothly... Whether you are taking a boat, plane, train or bus, we have to ensure that services are safe, affordable and running smoothly," adds Roxas.

The first part of his statement is Roxas the politician reaching for the expansiveness of rhetoric and metaphor. The second is Roxas the technocrat coming down to earth to attempt to articulate the mission of his new department in clear, practical, no-nonsense terms. Now that he's been put in charge of one of the most crucial—and also one of the most problem-plagued—areas of governance in the Aquino administration, he will have to call on the two dimensions of his public persona, the consensus-building politician and the dispassionate, brass-tacks technocrat, to work in tandem to help turn matters around.

He will need all the help he can get. His predecessor was widely acknowledged as a man of probity and even penance, but looking at the record objectively, it's clear even a man of De Jesus' proficiency never got very far in effecting major changes in the department, or clearing the morass of many public works projects it had inherited from the Arroyo administration. Of course, there's politics, too, in that paralysis—De Jesus' staff was, for instance, with Land Transportation Office chief Virginia Torres, a presidential shooting buddy whom President Aquino apparently favored over the secretary.

It's hard to imagine Roxas throwing in the towel as De Jesus did if he gets into a similar wrangle with Torres. From all accounts, Roxas enjoys an extraordinarily close relationship with his former presidential running mate. "Michel (Aquino's love bird)," he has said by way of explaining his decision to accept the DOTC post. To be cold-blooded about it, that leverage is something Roxas could use to good advantage now that he is about to reboot a department where the President's perceived partiality to certain officials in it has generated needless intrigue and division, not to mention a direct impact on public policy given Torres' meanie-flexing over the matter of the Stradcom payments.

Much of the past weeks leading to Roxas' security-less government has seen the nation's chattering class all but consume itself with speculation about the supposed titanic power struggles that would ensue in Malacañang once Roxas came in and began occupying mass and space in that infamous snake pit. That could still happen, but his quick, no-frills acceptance of the DOTC post has pretty much deflated the direst prognostications. In one stroke, it helped move the discussion forward from De Jesus' sudden departure, while also addressing a key concern raised by it. This time, the department would have at its helm someone who could bend the President's ear better than Torres or anyone of her ilk presumably could.

And Roxas' better begin working the presidential ear this early. The challenges in addressing an entrenched complex, and still require more than a resort to our-friendly metaphors or rhetoric. Even as the multimillion dollar Nai-a-3 case remains enmeshed in the courts and the structure itself is operating at less than half its full capacity, the 30-year-old Nai-a-1 has become a joke with its antiquated technology collapsing souls and airtight restrooms. The North Luzon Rail remains incomplete, mired in contractual dispute with its Chinese builder-supplier. Likewise, the P11-billion "roll-on, roll-off" (Ro-Ro) port project approved under the Arroyo administration is now ridiculously late being reportedly overpriced and kickback-ridden.

The public need not even concern itself with these knotty projects to know that the DOTC needs to step up and do much more. Every day traffic is horrendous, roads are badly rutted or flooded, LRT/MRT coaches are breaking down with alarming regularity, careening buses are killing hapless commuters on killer highways, and the country's Internet remains one of the world's slowest despite the telecom companies' hype and the Philippines' bid to become the business process outsourcing capital of the globe. Clearly, these "veins and arteries" are in need of a major overhaul.

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Squandered harvests

VIEWPOINT

Joan L. Mercado

"THERE IS no bad food to one who is hungry," Indonesian city Dilog started an interest in saving engagement.

The proverb fits the mid-year "Food Outlook," just released by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. It focuses little relief from country's prize crunch.

The world prices (tomato) at unfavorable high levels," despite recent favorable, experts due to annual FAO analysis. Raising demand will mean up more of early 2011's earlier harvests. Prices soared into by as much as 30 percent.

"Many low-income, food-deficit countries" will find themselves compelled to "spend 10 percent of their total import bills on food this year." Comparison with other world average at 7 percent.

The price spiral stems from overlooking factors unfavorable weather, with unprecedented wave of problems in recent Africa and the Middle East" that jerked up oil bills, plus Japan's nuclear disaster.

Also's "Food Outlook" complements two new reports on rallies that translate food prices over their long term. One is "Causing a Better Future" by the British charity Oxfam. The other is "Global Food Losses and Food Waste" by the Swedish Institute for Food and Biotechnology.

By 2050, the average cost of key crops could need between 120 and 180 percent, the Oxfam report foresees. "Half of that increase will be caused by climate change."

"One in seven people go hungry every day despite the fact that the world is capable of feeding everyone," Barbara Stocking, Oxfam's chief executive, told the BBC. "We are sleepwalking toward an avoidable age of crisis."

"Commitment to rich countries' waste as much food as sub-Saharan Africa produces," the Swedish report notes. Globally, a staggering 2.1 billion tons of often unspoiled food are dumped yearly.

"Many consumers in around 100 kg per consumer in Europe and North America," it adds. "Consumers in most of this each throw away just 6-11 kg."

The solutions are different for developing countries. They consist of issues, during production, processing and distribution.

About 20 percent of fruit and 40 percent of vegetables produced here are spoiled. Famous Centre of the University of the Philippines Los Baños estimates. FAO pegs seafood product losses at 30 percent.

International Rice Research Institute papers show that between 5 and 10 percent of rice can be lost to cutting, handling, threshing and cleaning. Another 5 to 21 percent disappears in drying, storage, milling and processing. "In rat-infested homes, rice warming here losses by travelers and contractors can from 15 to 25 percent of all rice grown."

We cannot afford to squander harvests. Its old Weather Bureau reports that 4.1 million families were hungry, as have once. In the first three months of 2011. "Three who report, avoid severe hunger increased from 560,000 to 910,000 families."

Filipino homeowners know that only too well. For over three years now, they have had to cope with food prices that edged unrelentingly upwards.

A world of cheap and abundant food, sustained by surplus stocks, large reserves of forex, fishery grounds and cropland, is now history. We need farms, damaged vital top soil, and diminished wildlife. Our profligate ways have bankrupted our grandchildren in a world where sustainable ways will be a permanent feature. Yes, this bleak tomorrow is not inevitable. How?

First, we must decisively curb corruption against systems that threaten life. Today's fiasco only replays the ravaging of natural capital. Another eighteen-year-old graduates.

Second, we must recover the historic displaced by post-harvest losses. "Ang food: Inipagsapin, ay food mangangalingan." Farmers told will you rice who serve will not waste. (Noli San Ildefonso Aquino for handing that homespun wisdom. As principal author of the Agricultural and Fisheries Modernization Act (RA 8435), he knows that a premium is wasted is the drain.

Also sustainable 20 percent of the agrarian budget, in the initial six years, to reverse plummeting assay of crops tapped and fish located. It recognized that rebuilding harvest losses from post-harvest losses yields. The land between open blackened agencies to "down out of the box." Agricultural extension personnel needed, for example, to focus on lessening yields of rice and corn—and little else.

Also sought to spur research bodies and schools to discover solutions and technologies to reverse the "Lou Bunny." This is a rare complex task. Now, it's handled by the Bureau of Postharvest Research and Extension, a mere stroke the state budget within the bureaucratic maze.

Today's food crunch provides a window to action if we have remained hopeful of narrowing the "squandered harvest." Have "serious technologies" been developed? Were they deployed? Or did they gather dust within display shelves of agricultural schools and public offices?

What are the roadblocks? Why is the case of adoption low? Have local governments stepped as partners? Many LGUs could support projects, ranging from drying sheds to fish processing to storage. Instead, many blow their (once) development Pesos in parks buried folks, among them basketball courts and overpasses no one uses.

This is the lesson even Nine missionaries pass. harvest systems adopted by the ones who understand them, the environment and artisanal fishermen? Only they can put food on our tables.

Or have earlier hopes for recovering squandered harvests gone pfft?

"Hope is a good breakfast," Francis Bacon wrote. "But it is a bad supper."

(Email: joanlmercado@gmail.com)

A demolition job

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

THE MRT Mess will not end if the de Jesus at DOTC inventory causes in any way reform or dispatch the fact that a man of sound integrity and competence, not to mention personal honesty, has resigned from the Aquino administration. And De Jesus definitely does not deserve the demolition job that he is being contracted to by the administration spin masters including their "media consultants"), although there are obviously signs that the demolition job has more the smell of in-self-destruction.

De Jesus' "sound integrity and competence" label is based on his performance in his Cabinet positions under Cory Aquino, the last of which was as Executive Secretary, as well as his performance in the private sector after he left government. What shows that the rest of the pudding is in the eating, if he was corrupt or inept, he certainly would not have been welcomed with open arms by the private sector where Cory-exposed clients.

The way he handled his resignation is proof enough of his "personal loyalty" label: he did not want to embarrass the administration, as he cited personal reasons, and/or a desire to return to the private sector.

This did not seem to be enough for some Aquino loyalists who were panicked by the possibility of negative repercussions on the President's already questionable management style, for someone must have come up with the "bright idea" of a face-saver re-shuffle. It appears that De Jesus had made an agreement with P-Noy prior to his appointment that he would stay and "help out" only for a year.

The bright idea was stupid, of course. In the first place, that is actually under P-Noy's management. Because if D-Jesus believed that the issue was to be with the DOTC for only one year, he shouldn't have had to be going through steps—trying to bring Inday Sarao into office, for family with a load of stuff not without cost to the administration even prospectively being removed down by parties who felt threatened by Bistek prospective presence in Malacañang. Better P-Noy would have surely announced that Bistek would be taking over from De Jesus by July 1, as previously agreed on.

Moreover, the spin was incredible. De Jesus would not have had to cite personal reasons or his desire to return to the private sector as reasons for his resignation. He would merely have cited the pre-appointment agreement.

Since the public wasn't buying (the public isn't stupid), they then came up with a second, even *juicier* story. De Jesus didn't resign, he was fired. Why? Because, they say, he was corrupt. They then cite chapter and verse De Jesus' "corruption," but he has refuted these charges point by point, in a letter which, in this writing, has not been denied. Besides, the issue is not whether or not he was corrupt but whether he was "exposed." Although I am prepared to take his word (you know the kid's been the 22-year) and press cuts on called "triple-A-reliable government sources" (for example), the fact is that the DOTC records back him up—he is indeed clean as a new Chevy prop.

Still no concern with planting De Jesus down, they proceeded to mind the President, saying that P-Noy has "gone past the learning curve" and is "actually in control and calling the shots, contrary to popular perception." (once again, the implication that the public is stupid), with the firing of De Jesus and the other officials of DOTC "proving that when it comes to corruption, there will be no compromise."

There these spin doctors get even more screwed anew. They try to transform the image of (D) chief (or lover) Virginia Torres from someone who was recommended to be charged Oty a Department of Justice face-finding committee) with "GRAVE MISCAST OF DUTY or GROSS INCOMPETENCE, or in the alternative with GRAVE MISCONDUCT" (a phrase dotted in regard to the Stradcom takeover incidents), in exercise who was doing her best to save the government from a contract she considered illegal.

Into Torres, these spin doctors, for instance, of making the President look good, they may have achieved the opposite effect. Why? Only consider: Friday according to the "good authority," had been "gathering information, and will be filing charges against Torres for administrative misconduct and other actions the "questionable contracts of DOTC" and then "unauthorized and validated" his findings with an "expiry." Nowhere in this story is it stated that D-Jesus or anyone called in supposedly to corroborate D-Jesus' findings, and asked him to give his side or defend himself. It was all done quietly. What does this say of the President's management style?

Or take Torres. If she was trying to protect the government from Bistek's rapacious land of Stradcom, how does that jibe with her statement to that she was "neutral"?

Since De Jesus seems to prefer to suffer in silence (his loyalty seems to have no bounds), we may never know his side. But there is a notion which is definitely consistent with all news stories before his resignation was announced, and at the very least does not smack credibility. De Jesus came in to the DOTC, which before his entry was a huge milking cow for brokers and state insurance brokers. He came in only to clean, stopping or some very sensitive toes in the process, no matter in now mild-mannered a fashion he does this. So out came the knives, figuratively speaking, and the instigators which fell on receptive ears. When P-Noy ignores the D-Jesus resignation on Torres (who knows her shortcomings as the President), that is the last straw for De Jesus. The end.

A University of Chicago award

SOCIAL CLIMATE

Walter Hongsoby

THE UNIVERSITY of Chicago Alumni Award for Public Service that I accepted last Saturday was an jinx for me personally, but, more importantly, for Social Weather Stations as a whole.

The award cites "pioneering meaningful social progress, social justice, and civic engagement in the Philippines." Decades of research on public opinion and its students of social survey data," and "helping it succeed to define its election and to increase democracy by democratizing the public will through numbers." It's only a little bit political on occasion."

Those things were possible only because SWS, a team of many people, had done the surveys and produced the numbers.

From UC, John Gilbert's elder cannot "[C]hicago" is remarkably so SWS is a long story. My first impression, in UC was at age nine, when I got a Ticket with interpretation: "2C?" on the chest, was by an another alone the one a UC student for only one quarter, years 1953.

I had no experience of studying abroad until I became an economics instructor in the early 1960s at the University of the Philippines, and discovered that to that time it had scholarships, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, to develop faculty to handle incoming fields of study. The study of economics was one of those fields, and I became the pioneer in forming an eclectic experience aside from entering plans in our IP-Ian per house.

To prepare, I considered from UP to the University of Chicago, which I attended from Lee Rubicon a year, where UC-trained economics Simon H. Kuo as mentored me, introduced me to Chicago-school economics, into my research, such to Dr. professor Theodore W. Schultz, and got me admitted to the UC doctoral program.

My host professor were Nobel winners Nobel laureate Agriculture, Income research, Milton Friedman Income, capitalism and freedom, George Stigler Information economics, economic thought, and economic issues those Chicago Harold Zeuthen. I got my degree in 1970, after a

(Column 1953: www.sws.org.ph or walter.hongsoby@sws.org.ph)

Valedictory

I HOPE always dreamed about delivering a graduation speech, though I have never dreamed that honor. I was never the smartest guy in class, or the hardest working. I was not very active in extra-curriculars, in politics or athletics. I had two memorable accolades to wear into the future of speaking on behalf of my graduating classes. I can recently one of 100, who graduated from my school and more than 4,500 from the university, one of several hundred thousand new graduates in the nation Philippines this year. From the first, among in front of my Bolen-

ing compassion, and I'm not sure I'm ready with only me, myself and I to say to my audiences. I would like to address my fellow graduates.

YOUNG BLOOD

Jobson Kalaw

My name is Jobson Kalaw. I'm a senior at Ateneo de Manila University. I'm a graduate of the class of 2011. I'm a graduate of the class of 2011. I'm a graduate of the class of 2011

Heroes and enemies

LETTERS

EDITOR'S (LAZATORE) and our visitors in corruption and criminal cases are the real heroes in our midst. We don't recognize them as such even after they have put their lives, families, reputations and future on the line just to tell the whole nation what they know about corrupt crimes and acts of corruption. They have nothing to gain—but stand to lose—their families, means of sustenance, reputation and dangers.

It is not fair that the government has not been providing them enough support and protection especially those in particularly heinous crimes—in order for the truth to triumph and in due time bring the master (master) with power, justice and impudence.

But I wonder why both chambers of Congress have not passed a law giving absolute blessing and immunity to whistleblowers who are ridiculed—thus.

Thus, Jun Lozada was so boxed in to seek refuge with his family, in a religious community. Others are suffering in loneliness and are making do with the broken pieces of their downward lives, while some of them are in exile. I am already so lost before the powerful, threatening or gone in an instant.

These selfless souls have their lives already sculptured in my heart, for they are true heroes in the midst of those who live rich though against the law and who are the real enemies of democracy. The whistleblowers although is that reliable blowers and our witnesses have tougher shoulder weights to lift—some all of us bear the torment in order to...

—JESSE M. VALDEZ JR.
mvaldez@yahoo.com

ARKIPELAGO Party members protesting against the bullying tactics used by the Chinese government in pressing its claim to the Spratly Islands

Thanks, CJ Panganiban, for kind words

I WOULD like to express my deep appreciation and thanks for the kind words Chief Justice Reynato S. Puno in the editorial entitled "Personal gratitude," (Inquirer, 6/1/11).

Please be assured that John P. Kennedy, Nelson Mandela, Ho Chi Minh and Jose Abad Santos are among the heroes on this par. All of them have used the difficult and sometimes impossible to achieve their struggle to achieve their dreams for a better motherland.

Indeed, there must be a need for and collective effort to surpass us all, (even individually) since many, government corruption. We are doing the best we can to address the problems that arise in our way. Please continue to support us in our endeavors so that we may push further in the path to a more progressive Philippines and to a better life for our people.

—JOSE ANGELO S. CHUA
solicitor general,
Office of the Solicitor General,
134 Amorsolo St.,
Legaspi Village, Makati City

Hope with every round of peace talks

EVERY TIME preparations for another round of peace talks with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) are being made, everyone is filled with hope that this time peace will finally be realized. This note is in the past, and so it is until now.

However, when the peace talks are about to begin, some kind of a hitch would suddenly step up here and there. Eventually the bilateral peacemakers which are the government's counter or inner limb, quite impossible to meet or work on, far-set, followed by a series of meetings and discussions that almost always end nowhere. The less these the greater chances of negotiation in the past.

Barring the MILF in peace talks is always a welcome development for us Mindanaoans. This raises our hope that the parties to the negotiation would come up with solutions satisfactory to all sides, but within the framework of the Constitution and existing laws.

Attention from the Philippines should be on at the question. How Mindanaoans do see non-violent and consistent simple protection and full support, to the government should. Probably, the notion for this is that some legislators have something unseen to hide and they dread the light when it's their secret sick-ness with their misconducts.

However, the good ones in them surely should stand and take it upon themselves to pass such a law with dispatch. They cannot see no to the impending wave within. Otherwise, President Aquino's "Daang Matuwid" would be nothing more than an empty gong and so hanging symbol.

Peace and validity under the complete justice creating that we have people who are supportive dispense justice put their powers, if and "pantas" interests in their weighing scales. Since justice is oftentimes derailed and perverted, and at the end, to heaven's check, it is these modern

—ROMEO M. MACAPAGAL
Jr.
Bacolod City

RH in the context of a rice shortage

CHE RICE fields are getting fewer because rice-using ones are being converted for residential use to serve the ever-growing people's need and because they command a higher price.

We spend billions of pesos for rice importations. The almost decade farm-to-market roads, bridges, irrigation, infrastructures, education, health services, etc.

Time will come when overgrowing country will have no more rice to export because their production would only be enough for their people or their populations are into growing higher rate. Without reason, our burgeoning populations will increase more rapidly. Although we now have the means there will be no use to buy.

How many I say those who are opposed to the RH bill especially the hierarchy of the Catholic Church's pro-population laws we will find few people by that time?

—ANTONIO C. ESTRADA JR.
El Cano Blvd., Sta. Barbara,
Iguig, La Union 2504

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All sorts of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete addresses and telephone or pager numbers for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

International laws-backed claim to Spratlys is strongest

TO PUT in proper perspective the Beijing's Republic of China's antiforeign claim to the South China Sea, which is more than 670,000 square nautical miles, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia, Vietnam and Taiwan should present this United Nations to change the name "South China Sea" and to name it "Spratly's Sea." This is important so that China's sovereignty and exclusive powers politics (strength) be converted not only by doctrine would only be enough for their people or their populations are into growing higher rate. Without reason, our burgeoning populations will increase more rapidly. Although we now have the means there will be no use to buy.

How many I say those who are opposed to the RH bill especially the hierarchy of the Catholic Church's pro-population laws we will find few people by that time?

—ANTONIO C. ESTRADA JR.
El Cano Blvd., Sta. Barbara,
Iguig, La Union 2504

ED 43 for focused, accountable, responsive Cabinet

IN HIS June 6 column titled "Against Inside-up his Cabinet," Rigoberto Tiglao misrepresents the intention of Executive Order 43 as a reference "disorder" the Cabinet. On the contrary, President Aquino configures his Cabinet to be responsive to the changing needs of the times. The EO does not replace the Cabinet system, it strengthens it into one that is focused on fulfilling his twin commitments with the PS-people's people's economic reforms, and reforms in integrity and accountability.

Section 2(2-4) is not solely a list of responsibilities of the Cabinet but an executive instruction by the President to do the whole Executive to focus all its actions and resources in order to fulfilling the five Key Result Areas (KRAs) of the social contract. Through the EO, he seeks focus and optimize impact of all government programs, activities and projects given the available resources. This means the Cabinet has to be reconfigured along these KRAs.

Besides personnel, All Cabinet officials, through the clusters, are tasked to pay attention and manage the targets to be achieved by prioritizing those five KRAs. Furthermore, this facilitates zero-based budgeting. Funding for activities that are not aligned with the five KRAs will be scaled down or even slashed. Ultimately, all of us in the Cabinet—and only the Cabinet members—will be held accountable by the President on how we are each and every government post-establish the social contract promises.

Besides, the EO also mandated clear lines of collaboration among agencies and the clusters. The President did not intend to create isolated silos; after all, the success of each KRA will be influenced by the development of others. The delivery of social services will depend on how agencies adopt good governance. The success of poverty reduction will result to good socio-economic development and to conflict areas. Economic growth has to be sustainable, and the interplay of the environment is an important factor to that. In such clusters finches can then synergize and maximize their efforts to achieve much the other clusters and ensure that their activities complement those of others.

Ultimately, the EO does streamline the government, for the EO mandates the clusters to coordinate with civil society, private sector and other stakeholders in accomplishments. In other words, the Cabinet is not an island or an exclusive enclave of elite-type, but a mechanism to take the people's voice and concerns to heart.

To conclude, I emphasize that in electing President Aquino, the people expect him not to create, time power into himself but to empower his Cabinet with the authority to act decisively, responsibly and accountability; not to have his time ego or death or long drawn-out meetings but to put those into action, and more importantly not to micromanage people but to empower them and individual leadership over the system. This is the core intent of EO 43.

—RONALD M. MEDINA
secretary,
Department of Budget
and Management

Pinoys tired of posturing

THERE IS more to what meets the eye in the motley group of placard-bearing protesters under Bayan up the streets where the "Rise for Peace 2011" parade through.

Prior to this, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) had issued a statement that it would not be participating in the cycling arena, which purportedly is part of the peace initiatives. Its participation, as quoted by the report, gave it another "shade."

However, we agree with the message on the placards: "Imandalan, hindi labi" (Agreements, unfailed). The message was clear and it was addressed to both government and the MILF. Its presence, as well as the sequences of meetings and "usap dayuna", they have had more than enough of the protracted conflict that has taken its toll on the south who want to live a normal and peaceful life and pursue a productive career for themselves and their families.

Indeed, the never-ending peace talks ought to end in a peace agreement—not mere accusations, but yesterday. It is preposterous to think that the negotiators from either side have not gone through all the pieces of concessions and peripheral issues. To claim that there are still areas that have yet to be debated upon contains suspicion that both sides have vicious intentions other than peace. To go linking for peace is a matter of time and opportunity. If the MILF thinks that this struggle is only addressed to government peace negotiators then, we're among the guilty.

The protest was to eloquent manifestation of how peaceful citizens have gotten tired not only of the conflict but also of open-ended peace negotiations and the attendant suspicions. And this can also be said of the talks between the government and the New People's Army represented by the National Democratic Front. The citizenry cannot understand why the NDF participates in destruction, political persecution, false accusations and bombings, while state combatants embark government troops, have private installations and engage in extortion in the name of "taxation." The negotiators from both sides must do their homework well and not prolong the agony of the countries conflict, while representatives of the CPP-NPA-NDF think on more in Norway.

Mangaldan strength

—BRAGAS BANDUNG
mybandmail@yahoo.com

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Court grants Leviste bid to defer arraignment

By Mike Navallo

A MAKATI court granted the request of former Batangas Gov. Jose Antonio Leviste to undergo preliminary investigation first before he is arraigned for allegedly crashing his private car into a motorcycle, killing the policeman riding it, during the scheduled arraignment yesterday.

Leviste's lawyer Joseph Basilio del Gonzaludo said his client's request was mainly a "remedy provided to the accused by the rules of court."

Gonzaludo said Makati Metropolitan Trial Court Branch 66 Judge Josefina Guidotti-Jalandoni extended the case to the Department of Justice for preliminary investigation.

Talking to reporters after the hearing, Leviste deflected questions on his case by telling media about his "Hilton room property."

In isolation

"I don't know if I can attend to our activity on Labor Day [June 13]... but we have send in situations to government officials," the senator said. "I have been locked up in isolation [for] three months, and never did I expect this to happen to me."

The Pro Deo and Trono Inc. cases dismissed outright to bring to mind when his "time is told, I will be vindicated."

Leviste left the prison compound on May 18 and went to the family-owned LPL Building in Makati City. The "caper" was caught on camera. Agents of the National Bureau of Investigation reconvicted the former Batangas governor. His driver, Nilo Tejada, was also arrested and charged as an accomplice.

Leviste insisted he did not intend to escape. He said he was going to have a meeting in the hotel.

Environment advocacy

It was Borongan last environment afternoon, according to Leviste, that he started himself our menu, an informed prayer for convictions officials. Schooled. Such privileges have since been stopped by the DOJ.

Leviste could get out prison for the charge of evading his prison term of six to 12 years, the gun-possessed studied to lose after being convicted of killing his long time aide and confidant Rafael de los Santos in 2007.

His cases sparked investigations in Congress. It has also led to the resignation of Bureau of Corrections Director Ernesto Diokno, a retired police general.

BACK IN HANDCUFFS Convicted killer-prison guards, Jose Antonio Leviste walks to the National Bilibid Prison court room for his scheduled arraignment on Friday. The court, however, granted his request to hold a preliminary investigation on his case, thus deferring his arraignment.

Sex trade flourishes in Bilibid

From page A1

Cor officials on the condition that their identities would be kept secret for their safety.

Asked to comment, Justice officers in charge Ellanee C. Gan said she was going to do just that," he said.

Web help of drugs

A prostitute can earn as much as P8,000 a night within the walls of the penitentiary in Muntinlupa City, one of the inmates sources said.

The catch is that the woman has to bear on with an undetermined number of men to make the amount, the source said, adding.

Some of the women are even made to take drugs first so they will no what they are paid to do."

The source claimed firsthand knowledge of the sex trade, saying he had escorted several women from the gates of the maximum-security compound all the way to the hotel (Santa or cubicles) of the inmates groups.

He received "gas money" in exchange for the task, the source said. But he later begged off because his conscience was bothering him, he said.

A member of the inmate's name from Bacoodo [in Manila], and the others from different places," the source said.

He said the women usually come at night in tricycles, and were escorted by corrupt security officials from the gate to the cells and proceed to the hotels of the groups.

Asked how the arrangement could have gone unnoticed by officials, the source said, "It's impossible for them not to know."

"It's possible that some officials are up the lake," he said, but we have not to name names.

"But the guards allow the women to pass through checkpoints inspection and questioning. Who's the boss of the guards?" he added.

Even female employees of the BuCor are giving worthy prisoners sexual favors for money, according to another source.

Broken families

He said this had strained the employees' marriages or relationships, causing families to break apart.

Which seems is that some of the employees get pregnant by their sex partners, which makes it more difficult for the women to cover up their acts, the source said.

The two source confirmed the cases of BuCor officials had documented.

"The women involved were told to evangelize pain of disciplinary sanctions," the first source said.

Another source's concern is the health of the prisoners, with a number complaining of symptoms associated with sexually transmitted diseases, the insiders said.

Leviste controversy

Dr Gan is appointed Dr. officer in charge of BuCor last month, after Director Ernesto Diokno resigned in the controversy generated by the arrest of former Batangas Gov. Antonio Leviste, a homicide convict, in front of a building he owns in Makati City.

Diokno, a close friend and shooting buddy of President Aquino, insisted that he was not to blame for Leviste's anomalous caper into outside prison and that inmates were well aware, very at the NBP.

Leviste's "caper" resulted in the filing of charges against him in a Makati court, which remanded the case to the Department of Justice on Friday afternoon for preliminary investigation. [See story on this page.]

A fact-finding panel formed by Dr. Gan uncovered excessive and security problems in the penitentiary, resulting in the cancellation of certain practices like the "sleep out" privileges of VIP prisoners.

A recent inspection of the NBP facilities by members of the House committee on justice also resulted in order from Dr. Gan for the dismantling of the prisoners' tables.

The justice secretary has since lifted the order pending recommendations for alternative arrangements at the congested penitentiary.

'Dodong' exits, new LPA spotted

By Leila B. Salaverria

TROPICAL STORM "Dodong" tracked east of the country yesterday but a new low-pressure area has formed west of southern Mindanao, bringing rains over that southern region, weather bureau officials said.

As of 2 p.m. yesterday, the new weather disturbance was located 880 kilometers east of southern Mindanao.

With the exit of Dodong, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) lifted all storm warning signals around the country.

Dodong [international name "Songda"] was headed for Hong Kong.

As of 11 a.m. yesterday, it was 320 km northwest of Laoag City moving north northwest at 25 kph with maximum sustained winds of 65 kph.

By this morning, Dodong is expected to be 340 km northwest of Basco, Batanes.

The rains over the past few days, including drenching Metro Manila, were caused by the southwest monsoon.

La Niña over

The Philippines has entered the rainy season, although Pagasa has also announced that La Niña is over. Rain-normal rainfall is expected in most parts of the country.

The La Niña weather phenomenon refers to the abnormal cooling of ocean surface temperatures in the equatorial Pacific.

Pagasa forecast

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AD CONGRESS PREP The 22nd Philippine Arbitrating Congress Team led by Supreme President and Head Chair Alexander [Bobi] Wiyo and Photo Committee Member Norman Donadilla (right) meet recently with Naga City Mayor John Bongat to discuss arrangements for the congress. Naga City will be home to almost half of the delegates for the three-day 22nd Congress Week. Online registrations ongoing at www.advocongress.com.ph.

Transport exec denies pushing for Ro-Ro project

By Paolo G. Montecillo

TRANSPORTATION Undersecretary Ruben Reinoso said yesterday that the recommendations for the abandonment, which said the Ro-Ro project should either be scrapped or suspended at the very least, should speak for itself.

A copy of the Department of Transportation and Communications report was said to the Commission for Audit by Secretary Jose Emilio "Babes" Soriano said.

"The report I signed was endorsed by Secretary Jose to Senator Enrile," Soriano said.

He denied the statement that he was pushing for the implementation of the controversial Ro-Ro project. However, he said whatever is the President's decision will be, it will have to be recognized that the government signed the P11.9 billion contract with the French contractor Egis Mattara.

"Honoring the contract is different from proceeding with the project," he said.

"Renegotiating to have terms more or scrapping the project entirely will have consequences. But these consequences will be a small price to pay to save the government from paying for expensive costs that the country has to pay," Soriano added.

'Thank God they wore orange life jackets'

From page A1

ation a Philippine Navy search plane spotted their unique jackets, relief officials said.

"Their boat sank. They lost no boat. They were just floating. It was a good thing they all wore life jackets. We are glad," Office of Civil Defense Region I Director Andrews Uy said in a phone interview.

Uy said a Navy Islander aircraft spotted the fishermen around noon yesterday 20 nautical miles southwest of Bolinao, Pangasinan.

The Navy asked the nearest ship, the private cargo vessel MV San Pedro, to pick them up and bring them to the nearest port.

Uy said the fishermen sailed out to Scarborough Shoal on Tuesday and were last found

from around 5:30 p.m. Thursday while "Dodong" was sending across the sea.

'We're about to sink'

The Shell was heading for shore when its captain, Dominador Ramirez, was contacted on radio by company operations manager Ely Bolinao. Ramirez's source was asking for help, saying he boat's pump had malfunctioned.

"Sabihin na kami [We're about to sink]," Ramirez said, quoting Bolinao.

Last message

Ramirez said he immediately asked for help from naval officials, who then contacted the Coast Guard.

That was their last communication that reached Bolinao. At the time, nothing more was heard from them. (The people believe them lost and safe," Uy said.

Rural Gerido, Bolinao mayor's pal administrator said the Shell had run into strong winds and rain battered by huge waves.

He said the fishing boat had planned to stay at sea for five days after leaving Bolinao.

The Shell's five fuels up boats were due to return to Bolinao.

3 other boats

Another fishing boat with 15 members miles off Barangay Isabel on Thursday but the five fishermen on board were rescued by another fishing boat, Gerido said.

Another group of fishermen was rescued in the South China Sea 32 nautical miles from Bolinao's shores, Gerido said.

French operations were continuing yesterday for at least three Bolinao fishermen aboard another fishing boat said a cell sales were reported running on Thursday.

As of yesterday, the official death toll from "Dodong" stood at two, according to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC).

On Wednesday, a 13-year-old boy was swept away by floodwaters in Barangay Sampaga, Malangas City. His body was found Thursday in a river.

Also on Wednesday, a woman drowned after she was carried away by strong currents while crossing the Kalanggan River in Bonifacio.

Nine other people were missing in different areas as of yesterday afternoon.

Philippines urged to invest in small farm holders

AN INTERNATIONAL aid agency is warning of a looming food crisis in the Philippines, where many are shrinking, the population grows by 2 million a year and half of families already spend 50 percent of incomes on food.

But Oxfam says the government can raise the food crisis by investing investments in small farm holders and farmers and taking steps to secure food for its growing population.

Oxfam Great Britain chief executive Barbara Stocking said on Friday that $80 million (small-scale farms in developing countries already support a third of

OXFAM head Barbara Stocking s

humanity and offer the greatest potential to boost global yields.

An Oxfam report says world prices of staples like rice, wheat and corn are forecast to more than double in 20 years, hitting the poor the hardest. AP

Assistant Editor Tony Benjamin

Across the NATION

ARMM workers restive over fund freeze

COTABATO CITY—The employees' union of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) decried the inclusion of regional government funds in the freeze order issued by the Court of Appeals (CA) on suspected ill-gotten assets of the Amputuan clan, saying it will drive their families to hunger.

The freeze order was issued in response to the petition of the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC) against suspected Amputuan clan properties and funds amounting to billions, with plunder charges against its prominent members, including suspended ARMM Gov. Zaldy Ampatuan and Maguindanao patriarch Andal Ampatuan Sr.

"Unless the court issues an order to exempt ARMM from the freeze order, thousands of our members may take the streets to denounce such action," said Raymundo Pelaez, president of the ARMM Employees' Union.

Families in peril

Pelaez said the freeze order will render families of some 30,000 civil servants and teachers in the provinces of Basilan, Tawi-Tawi, Maguindanao, Sulu and Lanao del Sur hungry because their salaries would be withheld as a result.

Employees cashing in checks for their salaries had been turned away by the local branch of the Land Bank of the Philippines here.

"The President has to do something so as not to prolong this government inaction where government functions are hampered," Pelaez said.

Ali Macabalang, director of the ARMM's Bureau of Public Information, said the freeze order might affect 50,000 employees.

He said most but the ARMM have realigned so much as to run to shame since its inception in 1990.

"We have armed conflicts, flash floods and all other calamities. But this is the worst calamity—freezing our funds to finish the salaries and other operating expenses," he said.

Lawyer Naguib Sinarimbo, ARMM executive secretary, said he flew to Manila on Thursday to try to solve the problem so the half of the ARMM government is.

The thing my best to that the allocations intended for ARMM operations and project implementations are made available and accessible in our depository banks," Sinarimbo said by phone.

Power co-op dragged

"The employees have nothing to do with the plunder case against the Amputuans so they must be given their due benefits," Pelaez said.

The Maguindanao Electric Cooperative (Magelco) was also alarmed by the court order freezing its assets and funds along with suspected Amputuan accounts.

Pantaguilang Jamad, Magelco board president, disputed suspicions that Magelco was owned by the Amputuans.

He said the owners of the cooperative were its member-consumers and not the Amputuans family. Charlie Señase and Edwin Bermudez, Inquirer Mindanao

TAUBAN is now a city again, but officials admit it would take some time for its residents to finally accept the change. Photo of the city are inhabited by Jessy Serrano.

Kalinga town takes hit from SC rule on cities

BASUBO (2F)—The city of Tabuk in Kalinga suffered budget cuts in 2010. Tabuban said he was forced with unpaid projects which for predecessors had programmed based on a budget declared for cities.

He said the city budget for 2012 will remain on the provincial revenue (P) in 2013. Tabuban said he was fa

INQUIRER Visayas

Guiuan's treasure chest of history, natural wonders

By Vicente S. Lidres
Guiuan, Eastern Samar

PERHAPS no other place in Eastern Visayas has been endowed with so much tourist attractions than the ancient town of Guiuan in Eastern Samar. Not only is it rich in history and culture but it is a treasure of many natural wonders.

Thus, when Eastern Governor Alberto Lim visited the province last month, he was impressed by what he saw in Guiuan. "a long white beach which can rival other beaches in the Philippines." It has all the elements of a tourist come-on, he added.

Among Guiuan's "treasures" is the 18th-century Immaculate Conception Church in the town proper. Originally made of wood, the structure was rebuilt by the priests and natives using stones after it was razed to fire.

It rises like a 42-square-meter fortress, its corners mounted with artillery.

At that time, it was "the finest and most regularly planned in all the Visayas" and did it "exceeds in grandeur the celebrated fort in Zamboanga." But with the passage of time, the walls were destroyed.

Most of the church, including its belfry is still preserved, however.

THE 18TH CENTURY church of Guiuan, Eastern Samar, and its belfry

National treasure

According to Prof. Rex Zerrudo, an expert on cultural heritage and museum development, the Guiuan church has been declared a "national treasure church"—one of only 26 in the country.

"Guiuan had three bases a cluster should have been rebuilded for a world heritage level. Why? It has a very high authenticity. Everything here is original. It's everything has been left intact. Only very few have restoration," Zerrudo says.

The church has a main altar and two altars along the nave. One has a crucifix built by the Franciscans while the other has a crucifix from Holland by the Augustinians.

THE CARVED main door of the Immaculate Conception Church in Guiuan

A SURFING area on Calicoan Island in Guiuan

Shell-crusted fishermen's net serves as the backdrop's side altars, side windows and niches. Zerrudo says the shell-crush tradition dates back to the 18th century and has continued up to now. In Salcedo, a pilgrimage site in Guiuan, the shrine are similarly fabricated.

Second class

Located in the southernmost tip of Eastern Samar, Guiuan has a land area of 17,549 hectares and a population of about 45,000. A second-class municipality (annual income: P46 million to P55 million), it has 40 barangays, including the islands of Calicoan, Calicoan, Salcedo, Homonhon and Suluan.

It is 109 kilometers away from the provincial capital of Borongan City and 155 km from Tacloban City, the regional capital.

On Nov. 15, 1978, Presidential No. 1801 was signed declaring Guiuan a "tourist zone and marine reserve" under the administration and control of the Philippine Tourism Authority (PTA).

It was in Guiuan where Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan and his men, sailing under the flag of Spain, first set foot on Philippine soil after crossing the vast Pacific Ocean—on the shore of Homonhon Island on March 16, 1521. The event was later lauded as the "discovery" of the Philippines.

In 1944, the Americans arrived in Guiuan and built a military base for its torpedo boats, warships, bombers and fighter planes that were involved in the Philippine Liberation campaign and in the invasion of Japan. About 100,000 Japanese servicemen were stationed in Guiuan and Leyte by then.

The base was the biggest American seaplane base in the Pacific during the war.

Russian refugees

In 1949, about 5,000 Russians escaping from communist rule in China made Guiuan their home for 27 months.

With the help of the International Refugee Organization, they sought refuge on Tabulan Island until 1951 when they moved to Australia and the United States.

Mayor Leonardo Gonzales Reyes says hostels usually frequent the coastline island of Calicoan, which has a 12-km stretch of white beach and a world-class surfing area.

Calicoan was declared by then President Ferdinand Marcos as the "Surfing Capital of the Visayas." What is unique about the island, the mayor says, is that the side facing the Pacific Ocean has big waves which is ideal for surfing. The side facing the Leyte Gulf has calm waters suitable for swimming and boating.

The 1,600-hectare Calicoan also has a lush forest with abundant wildlife, such as monkeys and mouse-deers, on Inopacan and some caves.

SMILE: Australian tourist can be seen inside the basement of the church.

Tourist activities

Tourists can go surfing, swimming, kayaking, trekking, spelunking or island hopping and enjoy the white beaches of Suluan and other islets.

Aurora Debo Reyes, municipal tourism, environment and tourism officer, says at least 1,000 tourists have visited Guiuan in the first quarter. "Many visitors come here to surf," she says.

Most are expected once the airport becomes fully operational. It is the same facility built by the Americans in 1944 and is now undergoing rehabilitation.

Guiuan has been a consistent winner in the Clean and Green contest in Eastern Samar since 2004. It has been adjudged Best Municipal LGU (local government unit) in the province.

Debo Reyes says the municipality has also been the best LGU (San Pedro Uni-Pond Cart (Drop) implementor on the provincial and regional levels and a finalist on the national level.

One of its products: Bonsucan.

For this toilet attendant, it's honesty over poverty

By Edison A. Jones Angeles
Mandaue City

WHILE CLEANING the toilet at the public market of Mandaue City in Cebu, Herminia Cejas found a bag left by a store supplies. Inside the bag was P250,000.

Although the 45-year-old attendant could have kept the money for herself and no one would know about it, she didn't.

"I feel my children the right to earn money," Cejas said in Cebuano. She returned the bag of cash to its owner.

It was not the first time that Cejas had found a stash inside the public toilet. According to the office of Market administrator Myrdden V. Sullos, she turned over at least P500,000 in cash and checks inside bags and wallets, and three cell phones left inside the toilet since she started working as a casual employee in 2009.

Her never thought of keeping those items, even if she received only P335 a day or close to P7,000 a month.

Because money has been scarce, two of her four children—Rhea Mae, 21, and Wenrose, 20—dropped out of college. A son, Mel Adriel, 16, stopped last year and is now a sophomore at Mandaue City Comprehensive School (MCS).

The youngest, Bambino, 7, is a Grade 2 pupil at MCS and helps his father, Romeo, raise fighting cocks and pigs in their backyard in Barangay Centro.

Strong faith in God

Cejas' strong faith in God that the family will be able to get through financially is behind her exemplary acts of honesty. She was never tempted to keep the valuables she found because these meant something to their owners.

"No matter how small the value of the bad done to, it means a lot to the owner," she said. "I feel light when ever I return what I find inside the toilet."

She doesn't accept tips from grateful owners because she believes she is only doing her job. But she is willing to take any food, which "is a grace from God."

A native of Lanao del Norte, Cejas moved to Cebu in the early 1980s as part of a charismatic group. Her father, Bonifacio Bladis is a church volunteer.

She later met and married Romeo, who hails from Mandaue.

In 2001, Cejas sold native delicacies to pupils of Mandaue City Central School. She applied for a job as janitress in the city government in 2007, and was accepted. She was reassigned as maintenance personnel in charge of the toilet more than a year ago.

Religious devotion

She has remained an active member of the charismatic group and regularly attends the 5 a.m. Gumbis Masses at St. Joseph's Parish Church. Sometimes, she would go to the Basilica Minore del Sto. Niño in downtown Cebu City to light a candle for the Holy Child Jesus on Fridays and to the Basilica to Regla (Virgin of the Rule) in Lapu-Lapu City on Saturdays.

As toilet attendant, Cejas returned a bag containing P250,000 on Oct. 2, 2008, to Rosalia Sosa Duran, who supplies food decor and cocoa to the public markets in Mandaue and nearby Consolacion town.

She found another bag with P5,000 on Sept. 7, 2010, and it was returned to Rolando Pulang, a dry goods trader.

A wallet containing P800 was returned in December 2010 and returned to Ryan Gardillo, a vegetable trader.

Cejas also returned checks amounting to P245,000, as well as three cellphones.

In recognition of her honesty, Mayor Jonas Cortes directed the city's human resources department to look for a regular position that would fit her qualifications. This has closed Cejas, but added that she is proud of her current job though some may think of it as lowly.

Not even once had she thought of quitting. "What would I feed my children if I stopped working?" she said.

HERMINIA Cejas, a toilet attendant at the Mandaue City public market, is recognized for her exemplary honesty.

Lascuña grabs 3-stroke lead

By Herseng R. Castillo

LIPA CITY—Antonio Lascuña closed out with three straight birdies yesterday to complete a six-under-par 66 and score a three-stroke lead Friday through the rain-interrupted ICTSI-Mr. Hilarecion Champions Cup here.

The 40-year-old Asian Tour regular actually birdied five of his last six holes, attacking par-3s without keep because of the Mr. clutch and placed calm, to take a 138 aggregate in the final two rounds and a three-stroke lead over Miguel Tabuena, the four-person Asian Pagmamana and two others.

Tabuena and Pagdanan, after firing 66s to jointly set the first-round pace, remained tied with second round 71s but are now three behind the lead as the majority of the 99 players field tried to finish the third round in persistent rain.

Their scores served flights left on the course because of darkness and the approaching storm have been decided to play the remainders of the third round very early today, with the final 18 to be played starting at 7:30 a.m.

"I made a lot of putts and played some wonderful approaches," Lascuña said in Filipino in his bids to improve on several career top finishes in this circuit.

Lascuña won Dec. 16th of the Netherlands fired a 69 like Filipinos Mars Pamo, to join Pagdanan and Tabuena in a second place-leggum overseas rookie pro Jared Alonso fired a 67 finish to send a final tally 11 to visit in contention.

A former Philippine Team member, the grass-eared Medina stars has a 2-till rolls like fellow rookie and fellow national squad teammate Jesse Balandan and Thailand's Thanyakon Khrongpha and Pramote Maeidok.

Arnold Villocanino, the long-hitting journeyman also making for a first team win, fired a 69 and with field of 145 +18, seven less Johns Carlos to remain well within the hunt.

ANTONIO Lascuña is eyeing a first win (ICTSI) PHOTO

PH bets eye strong show in Special Olympics

By Cedrik F. Rupis

THE FILIPINOS hopes to continue its impressive showing by sending 26 athletes to the 13th Special Olympics World Summer Games set June 20 to July 4 in Athens.

The Filipinos collected nine gold medals in the previous staging of the event for intellectually-challenged athletes in Shanghai, China, four years ago and officials are confident of another worthwhile showing this year.

Bowling standout Nonnatus John Ng and powerlifter Louie John Dimlangayo, who bagged gold medals in Shanghai, will again lead the contingent in Greece.

Manny Pimentel Mitchell, head of the Philippine Special Olympics, said hopes that the performances of the athletes will inspire Filipinos and also put to light the plight of people with intellectual disabilities.

"Our campaign is numerous through sports," she said, noting that those participating are athletes who are either mentally, with down syndrome or cerebral palsy. "We have won gold medals in the Special Olympics which is even better than our real Olympians."

Alexander Bobet, the executive director of Special Olympics in the Philippines, noted that hosting representatives in the World Games is a triumph in itself because of the sacrifices made by the athletes and the coaches.

"The Special Olympics has been all about volunteerism," said Bobet.

The Filipino athletes will compete in six events in Greece—athletics, aquatics, badminton, bowling, gymnastics and powerlifting.

Ikeda trails Suntory leaders by 3

CHIBIKO IKEDA shot a two-under par 70 to trail after him by three on the start of the Suntory Open at the Rokko Rokkosan Golf Club in Kobe, Japan last Thursday.

Ikeda, the reigning Philippine Ladies Open champion, started in a flawless round at the back where she used all, killing three birdies three to join the early leaders in the hi-hill leg of the Japan Ladies PGA Tour.

Ikeda remained within sight of the leaders, settling for joint eighth with fellow amateur Sakura Ito.

"We now game clicked but she could've done better if not for her shaky putting," said ICTSI team coach Bong Lopez.

Also tied with a 32 at the front is Ito Esther Lee at 67.

Dew in Indonesia, Smith Aloha carded a two-over 74 to grab a one-shot lead over entitle-holder Kok Ho Ji of Singapore halfway through the Mizuki Junior World Championship at the Orental Golfish Golf (Int) PGA course, also last Thursday.

Aloha birdied a 1.46 to pace the Qatar A Bold as Koh sputtered with a 77 and dropped to 15th.

PHOC EXPLORATION CORPORATION

INVITATION TO BID

'Boom Boom' hopes he won't go bust this time

By Ray Ludovica

CEBU CITY—It's boom or bust for Roy "Boom Boom" Barrientos when he seeks redemption against Ghanaian Emmanuel Nuno tonight in the headliner of the Pinoy Pride 16 Grudge Rematch at the Waterfront Cebu City Hotel & Casino.

"If I lose, I'm a goner," said Barrientos in Filipino during yesterday's official weigh in at the SM City Cebu Activity Center here. "It's win or never."

Barrientos, who clocked in at 115.5 pounds against Rudy Lozobia three battle for the lanes-national Boxing Federation (International Boxing Federation (International Boxing Federation) is saying to prove that he can fight a lot better than when he was knocked down in the third round and bowed by unanimous decision to Juan on Nov. 22, 2009 in Los Angeles, Nevada.

Though he didn't offer it as an excuse, Barrientos, a week after the bout fought at 122 lb, underwent an operation in which a rotten bone was removed from his left wrist and replaced by implant from his hip.

After nine months of rest and rehabilitation, Barrientos returned to action and has notched four straight victories since then to improve his record to 36-2 with 23 knockouts, the last five wins at the expense of another Mexican, Carlos Quintero.

"This is a very important fight for me and I'm ready," added Barrientos.

The 33-year old Iloilo, who wants to use his return bout with Barrientos as a springboard to another crack on a world title, was unimpressed and vowed to send the Sokehitsu secretary looming before his counterpart.

Ruiz, 46-128 KOs 43-2, said he watched Barrientos's victories over Barrera and found out that nothing has changed—Barrientos still has no defense.

Ruiz, who grooms ex with world champion Juan Manuel Marquez in Los Mochis, Sinaloa, Mexico, has knocked out four of his last six foes, though he himself missed the contests in the other two.

Rising star Jason Pagara battles with Ghanaian Carlos Gallogo over the vacant in the welterweight division of the main supporting bout presented by AGA Promotions and supported by Fortitudi, Del Gde Cebu, Asia Zone as the Radio Center Cebu, Diamond Suites and Bottle Rock, while Carina Chanel Hood and Gene Boro Nino.

HEY Davids (left) clocks in at 125.5 Bobbie Herbert's Rick Ingo 126 during the weigh-in. BOY LARES

OCCIDENTAL MINDORO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

INVITATION FOR ACCREDITATION AND TO BID

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Pangasinan
Municipality of San Fernando

INVITATION TO BID

Ace Japanese rider fills Buncio's shoes

By Mari Anthony Reyes

A JAPANESE rider who helped propose the late Mario Buncio for his first title Road Racing Championship last month will ride his joker in the 600cc Supersports class when he lines up for a Filipino crossover for quota to the second leg in Sentul, Indonesia starting today.

Tatsuki Tsukioka, the 2009 All Japan Road Race champion who rode with Buncio several times during the race up to the ARRC first leg in Sepang, Malaysia, will be the country's bet in the motorsports event according to team officials.

John Lee Enriquez will again be in back in the saddle for the Ducati 1198cc category.

"We are not stopping our journey," said Isuzu Philippines president Satoshi Ichiki. "We are going to offer the ARRC to Mario And Imelda will witness his dream for him."

The MPH for the event to continue the campaign as a tribute to the Filipino champion rider who died after crashing and getting stepped by a unscheduled used bus in Clark Speedway early a month ago.

The 28-year old Tsukioka was hired by Yoshimuri Japan to give Buncio technical knowledge of the bike which he himself helped tune up. Last year, Tsukioka was also the wildcard rider for six legs in Moto2.

Petron Karting 3rd leg today

SAMIEL MORANDA and Jacko Wahlstrom gun for ascendant in today's third leg of the Petron Karting Super Series at the Sweetland Kart Track inside the CCP Complex.

Miranda, eyeing a third straight triumph, joins the ROK & Senior class with 148 points.

Matthew Chua holds second spot with 143 points.

Sebastian Acopio as another debutant Ultra category.

"We are not stopping our journey," said Isuzu Philippines president Satoshi Ichiki. "We are going to offer the ARRC to Mario And Imelda will witness his dream for him."

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Carl Dellagrosa is eyeing a third straight sweep in the NBA-ROK division, Sramond Cuchola is also seeking a victory in the Cadet 90 & Senior class with 148 points. Rojo wants to first up his lead in the Formula 32 Super class.

Mary Ichie, Contributor

Eagles forge FilOil finals battle vs Lions

By Jaymiko M. Paye

WITH ROOKIE Greg Slaughter leading his crowd, Ateneo cruised Far Eastern University's perfect run with an 82-74 triumph yesterday. That propelled the Blue Eagles to the FilOil-Pilipino Mines Preseason Premier Cup championship.

The Blue Eagles—who advanced to the Finals of the premier summer tournament for the first time—avenged a shootdown of champions after NCAA titist Jens Knuth also topped Adamson, 82-76, in the other semifinal match at the MOA Arena in Pasay City.

Slaughter, sweeping over everyone at 6-foot-11, helped orient a late 1902 comeback to finish with a game-high 24 points and 14 rebounds.

"The more [guy] gets comfortable with our system, the better we're going to play," Ateneo coach Norman Black said of the former Cebu stalwart.

"I think [the loss] against La Salle did us good. We played much better tonight and Slaughter also played much better."

The guards also came through with Emman Monfort delivering 15 points and six assists and Rich Long adding 11 markers for the Eagles, the three-time champions who take on even the Tamaraws in last season's UAAP Finals.

Ola Adeogun turned into Rich out of a tight duel in the closing minutes to lead the Lions back to the Finals since finishing as runners-up to the Tamaraws in 2006 Fast in 2008.

Stepping up for injured star Jason Ballad, the Nigerian Adeogun poured in all the points in an 8-0 run that gave the Bitcoin a 79-72 advantage with just 54.1 seconds remaining.

ADAMSON'S Jan Colina (right) scores a rebound against San Beda's Ola Adeogun

PH Azkals ready for Sri Lanka, says Palami

By Cedrik B Tupas

JUST LIKE in its international campaigns during the past year, the Philippine football team will be armed and ready for battle in its most important match yet.

This was the assurance of Azkals manager Jun Palami, who said that the crucial game in Buena Gemuang will be the key to their success against Sri Lanka in the 2014 FIFA World Cup Qualifying first round meeting.

"We're not taking any chances against Sri Lanka," said Palami Wednesday night during his birthday bash, which also turned out to be a commercial dinner for enticing national players Dennis Bonilla.

Palami, however, refused to make any predictions against a Sri Lankan team which comes in with seven outfits for the Azkals.

"The best we could do is prepare the week the best way we can. I am confident, but Sri Lanka is also preparing for us," said Palami, the same method for the semi-final round's close to perfection.

"I will only make a prediction as soon as I see how the team plays in Germany" said Palami, who called the 3-0 loss to the United Football League All-Stars last Sunday as a good learning experience for the squad.

The Azkals leave tomorrow for Dumo, where other players like Stephen Schrock, Ekaney Ott, Rob Gier, Roy Aumann, Dennis Caputo, Angel Guirado and Jeffery Lacorte are expected to link up with the team.

Azkals coach Michael Weiss disclosed that Sri Lanka will be holding camp in Korea in preparation for the match against the Azkals.

JAMES Yap (left) will be the focal point of Derby Ace when he faces Limcaoco-Serbi Pure or Shaw today.

BARAKO BULL BUYOUT

Express seek purchase OK

By Mycong R. Cuzilla

ABS-CBN MANAGEMENT is just awaiting the signed agreement between its owners, Bert Lina, and Ramboo Padilla's George Chua regarding the purchase of Chot's disbanded franchise before it seeks new varsity the PBA board's approval of the sale.

Manny Alcantara, ABS-CBN representative to the board, tentatively confirmed the sale of the Barako Bull franchise and Lina's group which, if approved, would make Lina the third person to own or have ownership in the league.

"The required agreement is only one to my office," Alcantara said. "We will then pass it to the board for approval."

Alcantara couldn't confirm the "more than P50 million" price of the Barako Bull franchise because he was not privy to the transfer between the highest management levels of both companies.

Ramon S. Ang of San Miguel Corp. owns seven Bears, Bobby Ace Limcaoco and Steven Berry Gruhen, while Manny V. Pangilinan of the PLDT-Smart controls Talk 'N Text and Meralco.

The deal, which was signed more than two weeks ago, could bring back Bogart King or whatever Bull would have to face August.

Meanwhile, the season-ending Governor's Cup, an import-spiced tournament featuring twelve rounds of different heights because of a month-gapping rule, starts today in Dasmariñas.

Nine to Nine, featuring Antipolo Bull, and Sunday to Sunday, featuring the Derby Ace Llamados, highlight the 6 p.m. opener scheduled at 5 p.m. at the Dasmariñas City Convention Center.

Meanwhile, Petron will welcome new import Ricky Ramos today after original pick, NBA veteran Mike Taylor, pulled a fast-acting act formally with Fuenzo Shine Gas needs.

Taylor would have been a record-breaker for Petron. He is a current NBA free-of-18 points, second against the New York Knicks and was rewarded by Suns as Shaw line during that exhibition game as a great league.

Two-time champ Batangas battles Alabang IX

By Marc Anthony Reyes

TWO-TIME champion Batangas will lead three other teams in jacking up its chances for the next round of the Baseball Philippines Series 8 as four Sabbatical held in Lipa City.

The Batter 3 and 5 champion Bulls, who are struggling with a score and have just scored twice, will take on the Tagaig Tigers at 1 p.m. The Alabang Tigers will clash with the Batangueño Bulldogs in the opening game at 9 a.m.

All of them will be chasing seats for the next round after getting left behind by runaway leaders Manila and Cebu, which already booked flights to the semifinals with identical 7-1 card.

The Sharks, champion in the past two tournaments, and the Dolphins, the former 2-and-4 titlists, will go in a tense one in another out-of-town series at the Alonzo field in Mandaue City in Cebu.

The Cebu-Manila match, which many deem a preview of the title series, will mark the first time the league will go out of Luzon after eight seasons.

Asian sports superstars in a class of their own

SOUTHPAW

Percy D. Berba

SPORTSWATCH

Kickstand football is Davao

BULUKAN MUSEUM and Philippines hosts the 2011 Kickstand Beach football tournament's Mindanao leg today in Samal Island.

Today's action will feature seven teams from Davao region's division—Black Knights, Optimistic, Team Galang, Sports Blueprint, CDO Top, CDO Team and Other CMO Knights.

Leading the title hunters in the round-robin series is the veteran-laden Columbus FC. Four teams are all set to bid for the team's division—Cagayan Bulldogs, Subic FC-II, and Mabalacat.

The tournament is the first leg of the beach football trilogy that sees preseason twelve today, one by Metro Manila, Cebu, Davao by 2011 Kickstand Beach Football Tournament's Mindanao leg today in Samal Island.

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BY TOP CHOICE at San Lazaro LP

World Slasher Cup finals on Pacquiao heads stellar NCA Big Event entries

THE FINAL round of the World Slasher Cup 2-0 Crab Invitational Derby begins today with 2, 2:3 and 7 participants from the first bunch of entries holding bouts.

There were no surprises during Thursday's conditioned running of 8 participants, with four each series—Classic of Joints 55, Better Rome and Beijing Classic or other four "Bodabuso" Minutes and Movies Moulin R.

Other Bets

Bouts 8, 34 Robin Nice, Jay Richard Bing Vivas Lapis, Manuel Sarthou, Nick Alcaid, Robert Calibara, Jennifer Gomez Gutierrez and Mayor Rowland Tan Bing Hsin, Ma Federation, Ally de Castro and Kevin Lopez, Jorge Rose Gonzalez, Rose Representative and Rosario Ella, Jerry Torres, Jackson by Jaime Rodriguez and the Angeles Archbishop.

THE SOUTH AMARTO National Outdoor Alliance Big Event, the last event of the NCA this year, will be be held Tuesday at the Venues Sports Arena in Pasig where the country's best outdoor athletes for the championship.

The PSCA Big Event is regarded as prestige with the famed Lumbalisa Sound Derby in the United States.

All the heavyweights in Philippine rock fighting are participating, including boxing champion Manny Pacquiao who will be fielding two entries.

Manuel Sala, "EK Jaquilos" of Garry Fuentebella and "Dark Mamalaque" of Eric Bong Cuenca topped the NCA World Champion title Derby last month with 6.5 points.

So opens Sigeman chess championship campaign with draw

MAKATI, PHILIPPINES—IM Mendez Ito of the Philippines settled for a draw against grandmaster GM Anish Giri of the Netherlands in the start of the 19th annual Sigeman chess championship at the Shop Theater here Thursday.

Ito, 17, kept the youngster but higher-rated Giri to check for most part of the duel between two chess prodigies and agreed to a draw after 49 moves of the Ito defense.

The third-seeded Filipino, who played white, took a rapid initiative with better piece structure in the middle game but failed to convert in the face of 16-year-old Giri's superior endgame to the first round win.

"It was a close draw, which was the only logical result for this kind of game. Both had a small advantage with better structure but a strong player like Giri can easily hold for a draw," commented GM Harish Donaldson, who analyzed the game for the official Sigeman website.

Top seed GM Abel Mero of Spain crushed GM Jonny Hector of Sweden and GM Nora Tolentino subdued GM Nils Grandelius to six all-Swedish encounters to take the lead next in the six-player, round-robin competition.

SPORTS
Editor Teddyboy B. Melendres
Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Chiaco

Mavs near title

Dallas, Nowitzki take 3-2 lead

JAYSON Terry (left), Dirk Nowitzki and the Dallas Mavericks celebrate their victory over the Miami Heat in Game 5 of the NBA Finals. —AP

DALLAS—Dirk Nowitzki scored 29 points, driving for the go-ahead dunk with 1:45 remaining, as the Dallas Mavericks beat the Miami Heat 112-103 on Thursday to take a 3-2 lead in the NBA Finals.

Five years after going up 2-0 on the Heat, the Mavs finally put their elusive third victory, and one step up their first championship, in Game 6 at Miami on Sunday.

"We're a very resilient team, you know that," guard Jason Terry said. "We've been in tough battles all playoffs long. It's not going to stop. It's going to get even harder. But every step, we're determined, and this is our time."

Miami's LeBron James, who tallied this game "now or never," responded from his worst playoff performance with 17 points, 10 rebounds and 10 turnovers, and Dwyane Wade battled through a sore left hip after a first-quarter collision to finish with 23 points.

The Heat got the final two games at home, but history is against them as they try to win a title in their first season together. In the 20 previous times finals that were tied 2-2, the Game 5 winner won 19 of them.

The Mavs shot 50 percent through three quarters, briefly gave up the lead in the fourth, then scrambled the final few minutes, just as they had in rallying from deficits in Games 2 and 4.

This time, they got to play from ahead (thanks to some stinging shooting: 56.5 percent from the field, including 13 of 17 100 percent from 3-point range).

"We made more shots," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said. "We did a lot of good things defensively, which led to good offense."

Jason Terry scored 21 points and 37 hustle and 17 for the Mavs, with Brendan Haywood throwing "left, right, in the air, on his noggin" all the time surrounded by a sea of Heat fans who, frankly, left being home a championship replay if they can pull out another victory in Miami.

James scored eight points going just 3 of 13 in Game 4. On the first time in 90 postseason games he didn't hit double figures. It's been a rough last finals in Miami for James, who has been accused of overthinking from "decidedge" to "decidegood" in the fourth quarter, when he had just nine points through the first four games.

Trying to pump himself up, James wrote "Now or Never!" on his Twitter page early Thursday morning, into calling it the biggest game of his career.

But they lost the latest sequence in Dallas, where the slogan, "The Time is Now" is painted on those blue T-shirts that were around the court, and where the Mavs not traded with 39-something—Jet Mc, to Jason Kidd's one—who could be on their last shot at an NBA title.

Nowitzki said only Thursday he felt "great," having shaken his fever of Monday night. This time, the fourth-consecutive Finals, who bumped his hip in the first quarter and appeared to be limping at various points from there.

He maintained in the locker room in that the second half, coming back onto the floor about the midway point of the period. By then, the Mavs seemed to have given a groove to be evaded off so-scarier who Miami had out there.

A dejected Heat coach Erik Spoelstra was already walking onto the court to call time out by the time 12 deadline were up to drink after catching the ball all alone under the basket, giving Dallas a nine-point lead that stretched to 10 point of the entire. Miami answered it on 94-79 after three quarters, then shot and into the lead midway through the fourth with a 3-0 run, all layups, dunks and free throws until Nikki's 3-pointer made it 93-95 with 4:38 to play.

The Mavs tied it at 100 on Terry's 3-pointer with 1:24 left, and after Jason missed, Haywood drew it to Ichauk and a 102-100 lead with 1:45 to go. AP

Pinoy PXC fighters all primed for showdown

By Jose Navarro

THE SURGE may for Sugoles Pinoneda to survive a mid-getting pinned to the ground.

The Bacolod City guide will flaunt his boxing skills in his first international fight opposite rival "The Hedgehog" Alvarez of Guam on the Pacific X-Treme Combat (PXC) 8 at the Davao Cultural Performing Arts Theater of Roxas World Manila.

Pinoneda, a professional boxer from the Grand Alas Boxing stable in Cebu before coming a 6-2 record in mixed martial arts, tipped the scales at 134, a pound lighter than the two during yesterday's weigh-in.

At 5-foot-5, the 31-year-old Pinoneda has a two-inch height advantage and plans to play continuously against the more seasoned Alvarez, who has won six of his last nine bouts, two straight fights in the PXC.

"He's smaller but has a wide frame. I haven't seen him fight so I better stick to where I'm good at and mind going to the ground," said Pinoneda.

Another Pinoy will debut in this Guam-based MMA organization headed by general manager BJ Cobo when Cobo Tinapunan faces newcomer Ricky Camp of Guam in the other bantamweight bout.

Tinapunan, who won two of his three fights on the mat, is the undisputed favorite owing to his impressive striking skills and defensive tactics.

In the other featured fight, Kelvin "The Big Hit" Dizon of Saipan aims to unseat reigning middleweight champion Roque "The Closing" Villanueva of Guam in a grudge match following a controversial decision awarded in favor of Villanueva eleven months back.

Aplus METRO
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

Billboard firms'owners face charges

By Tina G. Santos

THE METROPOLITAN Manila Development Authority (MMDA) on Friday filed criminal complaints against owners of buildings and outdoor advertising firms who have put up billboards without getting any permit, in violation of provisions of the National Building Code.

Among those who were charged yesterday in the Office of Makati City Assistant Prosecutor Alex Bagasao were United Neon, G. Creatives, Optimum Ads and Idea Graphics Centre.

"We will narrow this campaign to ensure public safety and structural compliance. The filing of the complaints against billboard operators and building owners only show that we are serious in our campaign," said MMDA Chair Francis Tolentino.

"We don't want to destroy the industry. We just want to regulate the display of billboards for public safety. We want to make sure roads safer for motorists and at the same time, rid our major thoroughfares of aerial clutter and visual pollution," Tolentino added.

If found guilty, building owners and outdoor advertisers face a P20,000 fine or two years in jail, or both, according to MMDA legal counsel Rodolfo Mangpil.

Tolentino said some of the billboards had already been scheduled for demolition by the Makati City government.

"The building owners were given 15 days to rectify the violations, but they failed to do so," he said.

The filing of the criminal complaints resulted from MMDA's "Operation Roll Down, Inc. Jr." a crackdown on gigantic billboards displayed along the 23-kilometer long Edsa, which the agency, along with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and local government units, launched last month.

The MMDA led an inspection of the roughly 2,000 billboards on the major thoroughfare to determine whether the outdoor signs complied with the Philippine Building Code.

"The Building Code states that no person or entity shall erect, repair or alter a billboard without first obtaining a permit from the local building official," he said.

"Our inspection teams composed of representatives from the DPWH, MMDA and local government units discovered that many of these billboards have no such permit, and have violated locational and other safety requirements under the code," Tolentino added.

LTFRB suspends bus firm in Chit Estella road accident

By Paolo G. Montealto

THE LAND Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) has suspended the company that owns the bus that allegedly hit the taxi cab carrying journalist and anti-crime professor Jesus de "Chit" Estella Gonzalez, overturning it last week.

The LTFRB also wants to investigate why the bus, owned by NK Transport Services Inc., was operating under the name Peria Auto Transport Inc., following a possible illegal transfer of ownership of a public utility vehicle.

In an order signed on Friday,

(CONTINUED HERE)

CAGBRE JOHN BRIGADA ESKWELA

Tab '14 Tnt hardcourt players Ali Peek and Charles Waters cheer up to pass a rock in the flyfinish drive Sunday Elementary School in Manila. The cagers are ambassadors of Smart Communications Inc., in support of the Department of Education's Brigada Eskwela program, a nationwide annual initiative of the department to get parents, alumni, civic groups, local businesses, NGOs, teachers, students and other volunteers to do repair and maintenance work in public schools.

Las Piñas' historical corridor: Soul of the city

By Mike Morales

IT DOES'NT look anything like the scenic Las Piñas coastline, but the seventh stalled Diego Cera structure is the "city's soul," said Rep. Mark Villar.

"This is the original Las Piñas," he told the business. "Some people told us overlook the cultural aspect of the city but I really feel this is its soul."

Villar was referring to the "historical corridor," an attempt to recreate the Spanish era by restoring several key structures in the city and imparting all buildings and houses in the area to adopt a Castilian look.

With the approval of a law and accompanying ordinances 11 years ago, the corridor slowly came to be to remind residents of the city's rich history, according to the neighbor lawmaker.

Today, only the well-worn arch at that mark one's entry into Las Piñas are lacking in the corridor, said Villar who said the structure would be put up this year.

"What we have (the existing arch at the Las Piñas-Parañaque boundary) it's just that the arch was not built according to the specifications indicated in the master plan," he explained.

The law creating the historical corridor was initiated by his father, then Manny Villar, in 1998, when he was still a congressman. The corridor was conceptualized by noted architect and National Artist Francisco Mañosa.

Under Republic Act 8801, several sites on Diego Cera in front (formerly Quirino Avenue) were declared cultural spots: The Las Piñas Church and Bamboo Organ, the Pres Diego Cera and Zapote Bridges, Las Piñas Golf Course of Las Piñas Elementary School, the old district hospital and the Ayuso area where salt is made.

WORLD'S famous bamboo organ is city's top tourist attraction.

Of all the attractions, the most famous is the Las Piñas church constructed in the 18th century, and is more popularly known as the home of the bamboo organ. Built by the Augustinian Recollect Friar Diego Cera and declared a national treasure in 2006, the bamboo organ was restored in 1975. Since then, the city has hosted the annual International Bamboo Organ Festival, the largest running music festival in the country.

Next are the Diego Cera and Zapote Bridges which still bear the arch designs, with restorers reinforcing the structure with cement. The Zapote Bridge, however, is used only by pedestrians because it can no longer support the weight of vehicles.

Reminiscent of the early years of the American occupation, Las Piñas Elementary School's Gabaldon Hall is one of the survivors of the city's rapid development.

It features high ceilings and narrow rooms made of "capiz" shells.

The design was inspired after a former Nueva Ecija congressman, Isauro Gabaldon, who introduced a law in 1907 that appropriated funds for the construction of school buildings on his seaside.

Villar said the local government was set on making sure the historical corridor maintained its Old World feel through constant monitoring.

"It is a continuing process, improvements should not stop," he added, referring to restoration work in the area. "The monitoring should never stop, in terms of the structures ... to make sure those are consistent with what we are preserving."

While some structures along the corridor have yet to adopt the Spanish-style architecture, residents cannot just renovate their houses because of the local government's design restriction. Most commercial establishments in the area, however, as well as housing developments, strictly follow the given Red look.

"Developers are coming in, as well as commercial establishments. It's nice to see that," Villar said. With Dan Joseph Dejarme

ZAPOTE Bridge today is solely for the use of pedestrians. (Inset) Rep. Mark Villar. Bringing an Old World feel to a modern city. Right: Built in the 18th century, Las Piñas Church houses the bamboo organ. MANUEL ARIAS

Law of the jungle

ON TARGET
Ramon Tulfo

MALPUNA Eric Ariel Baes said Ubalmael for what he did to broadcast journalist Jeremie Tabaquero of DyRF Radyo ng Bayan in Tabuk City. She's a hellfully and thinks she's not the one.

Hellfellow people who live in unreachable mountains away from civilization, are not their anger without regard for civilized behavior.

People in these mountains follow the law of the jungle.

They speak only their clubs or fists.

Baes thinks that because he's governor, he holds the power of life or death over his countrymen.

Tabaquero is lucky Baes (if the "E" was changed to "I" his name would have been "Bae" which in Visayan means fun) he only got a "bite" from the governor.

Baes's "bite" consisted of hitting Tabaquero with a microphone on the mouth.

Tabaquero had criticized Baes for the reported prevalence of "pasuwa," or illegal numbers game, and illegal logging in the province.

* * *

The Department of Interior and Local Government should go easy on Baes because he was only following the law of the jungle.

By this law, big animals bently eat the small ones.

But losers here Baes should be careful!

He should be placed on far away from his followers as possible so he can't do much harm to them.

He should be told to behave by a team with a whip.

* * *

The Philippines is the second most dangerous place in the world for journalists, next to Iraq.

I think it's the other way around.

Iraq comes second only to the Philippines.

In Iraq, where there is a war going on, journalists are killed in the crossfire between American forces and militants.

The bullets or bombs that killed them were probably meant for soldiers or militants they were covering.

But journalists in the Philippines are killed deliberately as in the case of the Maguindanao massacre, or harvard assassination, as in the case of Inkanget in Tabuk.

There are more journalists in this country who are killed deliberately than the number of journalists killed covering wars in Iraq or Afghanistan.

* * *

Pasay Mayor Tony Calixto ordered his police chief, Senior Supt. Nap Carreon, to stop all illegal gambling activities in the city.

Carreon, a recommendee of Davao City Vice Mayor Rudy Duterte and considered a "straight" officer, followed his mayor's order to the letter.

Now the mayor's friends, who are allegedly into illegal gambling, are complaining.

People in Pasay are wondering how long the order will hold.

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LTFRB suspends bus firm in Estella accident

From page A21

the LTFRB issued a 30-day preventive suspension against Mr. Transport, which has 118 buses operating in Metro Manila. All 18 buses involved in the accident were covered by the suspension order.

The regulator said it would "inspect and determine the roadworthiness of all authorized bus units of Mr. Transport ... bringing [the buses] to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Service together with an authorized representative of the board."

All Mr. Transport bus drivers will also be asked to undergo road safety seminars and drug tests, the LTFRB said.

METRO BRIEFS

Solar power for Bonifacio tunnel

CONGRESSMAN agencies and a private lighting and electrical firm have teamed up to install solar-powered LEDs (light emitting diodes) along the 780-meter long Buni tunnel in Mandaluyong City, a move aimed to save the area for the large scale use of energy efficient lighting systems. Through the "Buni Tunnel Efficient Lighting System" project, the Department of Energy (DOE) will monitor the installation of 47 Solar LEDs, considered electric illuminating the roadway inside the tunnel. These lights will be powered by a grid-interactive photovoltaic system that can generate 6,400 watts. According to the DOE, these LED-usable lamps can last for about 30,000 hours and, more importantly, can save the city government of Mandaluyong up to P300,000 a year in electricity expenditures. To implement the project, the DOE signed a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Mandaluyong city government, Metro Manila Development Authority, Philippine Solar-ed 20 Inc.'s Generation Corp. and Philips Electronics and Lighting Inc.

Amy R. Remo

The WORLD

Editor Lawrence B. Ganzon

Millionaire dog named Trouble dies

LEGACY Helmsley in a July 4, 2008 photo with her dog Trouble

ALL 28 DOGS must pass, and now so has Trouble, the lapdog-named multimillion-dollar heiress who most likely lived out her golden years without realizing she was the world's richest hound.

Trouble, who was 12, drew fame and extraordinary when her adoring owner, the billionaire real estate and hotel tycoon Leona Helmsley, bequeathed $12 million to her. The public loved to hate Helmsley, called the Queen of Mean and seen as emblematic of 1980s excess, and the public came to loathe Trouble after Helmsley died in 2007 and more broke of the dog's windfall.

Trouble died on Dec. 13, though news of her death was heard only Thursday. The cause of death was not released. The Lhasa apso of a bygone year being unpopular in seven dog years is a minor mystery, experts have said. But according to the Pedigree petfood company, at 12, a Maltese is a "senior dog," who would be about 64 in human years.

Many have attributed inheritance as an example of Helmsley's eccentricities and mean-spiritedness; as two of her grandsons had been excluded from her will. Hotly, white and testy, Trouble became both wanted and hated. She received two years' death and kidnapping threats along with a few offers from eager breeders. When Helmsley's brother refused to care for her, Trouble traveled by private jet from New York to Florida in September 2007, flying under the alias "Bubbles" to keep the ill-intentioned off her tail.

Trouble died much as she lived, cosseted and coddled, minded to mind the clock. She spent her final years in Sarasota, Fla., where her caretaker was Carl Lekic, the general manager of the Helmsley landmarks hotel.

Keeping with the dietary requirements of an elderly lady, Trouble was weaned off her milk diet by Lekic. She had been handfed crab cakes, cream cheese and steamed vegetables with chicken during her time with Helmsley, but once in Florida, the biggest dining tab dog food from a can. "Trouble has gone from caviar to dogs," John Tinley, Helmsley's longtime friend and adviser, said on "The Early Show" on CBS in 2008. The change seemed to suit the fussy and somewhat emotional Maltese, who gained a pound.

In 2008, Helmsley's grandsons convinced a judge that Helmsley's will was the product of an unsound mind. Trouble's inheritance was reduced to $2 million.

Lekic put Trouble's yearly expenses at $150,000. Her measly yearly trust $240,000 yearly, her grooming $8,000, her food $1,200 and her medical expenses—she had kidney problems—$2,500 to $10,000, he said. Lekic's guardian fee was $60,000. In a statement, a spokesperson for the Leona H. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust said on Thursday that the money remaining for Trouble's care had reverted to the trust for "charitable purposes."

New York Times News Service

Major powers pledge $1B in aid to Libyan rebels

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates—The nations intervening in Libya pledged as much as $1 billion in support for the opposition there on Thursday, as senior officials continued to predict that the collapse of Moammar Gadhafi's government could be imminent.

At the Nato military alliance intensified attacks in the Libyan capital of Tripoli, including a new round of daytime raids, senior officials meeting here acknowledged that support for Gadhafi's army, had could be melting a regime, and still said and they reflected the government's isolation and weakness, despite public defiance.

"There have been obviously multiple leaders from the Gadhafi regime to contact members of the international community coming every other day," Ambassador Susan Rice, Obama's security adviser, said on "The Early Show" on CBS in the U.S. The changes seemed to add the fear and—a half-second Minister, who gained a pound.

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New York Times News Service

Rice said the consensus here was that "Gadhafi's days are well and truly numbered," giving urgency to the efforts to prepare the opposition for taking power and provide it with aid.

Such predictions, echoed again by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, have proved premature more than once before since the United States and other Nato countries began a military campaign in March.

Jo Grimes, a senior Libyan diplomat vehemently denied that Libyan forces had committed atrocities, including a systematic campaign of rapes by soldiers, possibly including the diaction of Gupta, as prosecutors for the International Criminal Court suggested on Wednesday.

Investigations into rape and sexual abuse in war zones are notoriously difficult, and even some human rights groups have cast doubt on the accusations. Amnesty International said in a statement on Thursday that the group's researchers, working in eastern Libya, Misrata and in refugee camps along the Tunisian border, "have not to date turned up reports of sexual violence to support this allegation" of systematic rape.

Libyan officials have also steadfastly denied calls of any duel involving Gadhafi's hunting, the country, but even so officials meeting here, as part of what is known as the "second track" are cravingly took steps to prepare for what Clinton in her remarks called "the inevitable: a post-Gadhafi Libya."

The officials established a financial mechanism... first agreed on when they met last in Rome a month ago—that would allow it... next summer to the Libyan opposition despite UN sanctions that remain in place on the country. That channel the way for nearly $200 million in assistance already pledged by Britain and Qatar, two of the countries that have strongly supported international action against the Gadhafi government. Italy, France, Turkey, Australia and other countries also pledged additional money on Thursday, totaling more than $1 billion, much of it backed by frozen Libyan government assets.

But the money still faces legal hurdles before it can reach the rebels. The United States and Australia joined Britain and France in recognizing the opposition Transitional National Council as the legitimate representative of the country, a step closer to diplomatic recognition. New York Times News Service

US solon in sex scandal ignores calls to quit

REP. Anthony Weiner, D-NY, and his wife, Huma Abedin, arrive Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, in photo taken on Jan. 5. Sidelined by the disclosure of her husband's online sexual antics, Abedin is on errands-long overseas trip with her boss, as another disclosure puts her even more in the crowded zone public eye: She is pregnant.

DATA as top Democrats unsuccessful pressure on him to resign, Rep. Anthony D. Weiner of New York used his power through the day on Thursday and suggest things were getting back to normal.

"I'm going to go back to my community office and try to get some work done," he told a reporter before jumping into a waiting car in Manhattan.

So far, a number of leading Democrats, including Tom Reed, the former Democratic National Committee chair, and a half-dozen House colleagues, have called for the congressman to leave office. The House Democratic leader, Nancy Pelosi, is expected with his handling of a scandal that has surfaced in photographs of himself and suggestive messages to young women on an social networking website.

But Weiner seems solidly unmoved, according to those who have spoken to him.

That is the impression of the unusually distant relationship Weiner has with many of his colleagues. The swirling scandal around him has revealed a touch about his personality and his place in the Capitol. He does not have a large circle of close friends in the House, and he rarely socializes with, and they do not earn too much about him.

Even lively bills of ambitions and egotistical people, Weiner, 46, stands out for his brash and sometimes even impulsive style. His aggressiveness has served him well, as he has emerged as one of the most visible politicians in New York City and one of his party's most camera-ready combatants. Liberal radio television seems to love his style, as do many of his constituents.

But his pugnacious what friends and associates say is a troubling trait: his tendency to take things just a little too far—whether on the House floor, where he badgered colleagues, on the ice in a hockey game, where he was a relentless (and) called, or in office office, where his abrasive management style sometimes wound the less than bullying.

"He had a style that were people drawn," said Rep. Peter King, a Republican from Long Island who once more concerned by Weiner on the House floor. "Now, when he sends help, throw it no one who is there, not even Democrats."

It is not clear when will hap-

pen in the next few days. House Democratic leaders have suggested they will increase pressure on Weiner, whom they see as a liability in their campaign to put Federal Government message against Republicans.

But, for now Weiner, a seven-term congressman who represents Brooklyn and Queens, appears to believe that he can survive the storm by hunkering his head down, and waiting for the controversy to run its course. AFP/WE

Germany probes caterer as E. coli death toll rises

BERLIN—German officials framing the source of an E. coli outbreak said they were investigating a caterer that served some of the vegetables at two events attended by victims of the bacteria that has killed at least 50.

Chancellor Angela Merkel said authorities were pursuing "exactitude" efforts into tracking the outbreak, in an apparent bid to deflect growing international and domestic criticism over the government's handling of the situation.

The outbreak has infected more than 2,900 people in 12 countries. All cases have been traced back to the Hamburg area in northern Germany.

Authorities in the central German region said they were investigating a caterer that delivered food to a birthday party near the town of Dortmund on May 20 where at least eight people fell ill.

At least two of the sick people had tested positive for E. coli and one for the more dangerous complication called hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS), said the authorities.

"At the moment, tests are under way ... Clearly the [catering] firm was involved, but they are cooperating with us in a very constructive manner," said Markus Schönenspringer, deputy director of the federal region's health authority.

President authorities on Thursday said a person who had traveled to Hamburg in late May had died in a city hospital, bringing the death toll from the outbreak to 50.

"It is still a very complicated operation, finding the source, but I feel there is great experience to work on it with determination," Chancellor Merkel said at a news conference.

Authorities continue to focus on German-grown bean sprouts in the investigation, although tests on cucumbers sent in the course of inspections, returned in the spotlight briefly after waves of the E. coli strain were found on the vegetables in January-March. Reuters

Drought-hit Europe prepares for emergency

PARIS—Suffering from a major drought and high temperatures, European nations started preparing emergency plans this week to conserve water, provide millions of dollars' worth of aid to farmers and even send aid ships to deliver hay for cattle and drinking on grass on parched fields.

In France, before autonomous last week, the period from March to May was the driest in the past 50 years and the warmest since 1900, according to Meteo France, the public weather service. Records have also been threatened in England, where the spring was been the driest since 1910. And in Germany, the weather service said the drought was the worst since the nation started measuring rainfall in 1893.

On Thursday, President Nicolas Sarkozy announced an assistance package that would include using national trains to deliver fodder to livestock farmers, who are comparing the temperatures to the summer heat wave of 2003, which caused thousands of deaths in Europe.

The aid, which officials said could reach more than $1.4 billion, includes a deferment of farm loans, a land tax exemption and development of a five-year plan to improve water reserves.

The drought's effects are spreading. A 23 percent decline in France's wheat crop could add five cents to the price of a baguette; cattle are being slaughtered early because grazing lands are brown. A plunge in the rapeseed harvest in Germany, which produces about a quarter of the European Union's crop, is expected to depress biodiesel production. AFP/WE

Egypt's economy slows to a crawl, hurt by the revolution itself

CAIRO—Egypt's economy whose inequities and lack of opportunities helped topple a government, has now groaned to a virtual halt, further wounded by the revolution itself.

The 18-day revolt stopped new foreign investment and destroyed the pivotal tourist industry. The unemployment rate soared to more than 2 percent from a projected 9 percent and Egypt's fiscal currency to serve plunged 20 percent.

In a region where economic woes ravaged an entire generation, whether and how Egypt can fix its broken economy will be a key factor in determining the revolution's success. It could also influence the outcome of the revolutions across the Arab region, where economic troubles are stirring fears of continued instability, authoritarian crackdowns, or even a backlash against what had appeared to be a turn toward Western-style market reforms.

"People are angry," said Hassan Mahmoud, a resident of a slum near Cairo. He expected a better life after the revolution, he said, but instead he was laid off from his $150-a-day job as a souvenir factory. "People in the neighborhood are talking about going back to the streets for another revolution—a bigger revolution," he said.

With Egypt's first open election this fall, the challenge of meeting public expectations while turning the economy back to health has prompted a wide-ranging debate over suddenly divergent proposals.

Those range from deep cuts in the bloated government workforce and vast public subsidies, a leftist reorganization of the state's role in the economy, or even the Muslim Brotherhood's plan to impose a 7.5 percent income surtax on all Muslims to fulfill their religious mandate to give to charity. Nonetheless would not be required to pay—subsidization that would reinforce sectarian resentments.

The major Western states are scrambling to address the growing sense of crisis by pledging a total package of $20 billion in assistance to the revolutions in Egypt and Tunisia, including debt forgiveness as well as loans from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

The challenge is steep. The revolution has inspired new demands for more jobs and higher wages that have collided with the economy's diminished capacity. In an indication of the desperation, the government said soon after the revolution that it would add 450,000 temporary jobs to the public payroll, an extra seven million people applied, said Ahmed Galal, a prominent Egyptian economist.

Samir Mohamed Radwan, the interim Egyptian finance minister, recently told the BBC that in his current job he felt "like a prisoner." "With European countries still battling to pass revolutionary charter, only ninety cent pass the trustees in the audit of Cairo's ancient market. Tourists, which accounts for more than 10 percent of the economy has plummeted by 40 percent, officials say.

Workers for workers demanding their share of the revolution's spoils continue to stall industry, and business executives say the demands are becoming self-defeating.

"We increased wages after the revolution, and a month later the workers came to us like, again and asked for even higher wages," said Mostai El Alfi, chief executive of Americana, which runs fast-food restaurants here.

"They beat up the bosses in some companies and we have to close down the factory," he said. "Everyone is jumping on the revolutionary wave and trying to reap what's in it," he added, "and it's become chaos."

Other say the drive to root out corruption among the business elite has frozen new investment. "The main sources of capital in this country have either been arrested, escaped or are too afraid to engage in any business," said Alaaeel Fahdi, 35, a conservation executive. "Many of the businesses in Egypt are based on cronyism and work with someone filled with question mark," he said. "The government halted most projects, to be consulted and the banks stopped lending."

Many Egyptian economists and Western scholars say that the governance of former president Hosni Mubarak tainted free market ideas like privatization because the spoils were distributed to the well-connected. NYT/WE

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IN THIS ISSUE
■ Alliance rights offer
O&d /B2
■ Banks' bad loans
dipped further in April /B5

Editor Raul O. Manalo • Assistant Editor Connie S. Marlowe
BUSINESS

Simon
Prevent the crime before it happens

Thai firms commit billions in investments

By Abigail L. Ho

FOLLOWING PRESIDENT Aquino's visit to Thailand last month, executives of Charoen Pokphand (CP) Group, Siam Cement (SC) Group and PTT Public Co. Ltd. committed to boost their

SC Group will put up power plant to support output

operations in the Philippines by way of fresh initiatives.

In a statement issued yesterday the Department of Trade and Industry noted that CP Foods Pte president and chief executive Soleerak Jiraprasit pledged to invest another P1.45 billion into its existing food and agribusiness operations.

The investment will cover the company's expansion into shrimp and fish farming and hatchery operations as well as poultry and hog raising. This will be on top of its current aquafeeds production business.

The CP Group also committed to expand its employee base from 3,000 to 5,000 by next year.

The SC Group, on the other hand, also planned to further increase its $200-million investment in the country. SC Group president and chief executive Kan Trakulhoon said the company would be bringing in its cement manufacturing technology into the country.

The company would also be producing more value-added products to jack up its revenue stream.

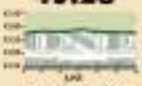
The SC Group owns several companies in the Philippines, including United Pulp and Paper Co. which produces kraft paper; CPAC Monier Philippines, which manufactures concrete roof tiles and Mortwise Manufacturing Inc. which makes ceramic tiles and bathroom fixtures.

Kan noted that since the existing Mortwise plant was already running at full capacity, the SC Group was keen on expand-

Turn to B3

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE
June 10, 2011
43.28



STOCK MARKET
June 10, 2011
4.76

Stocks still losing ground

SHARE PRICES yesterday opposed strongly but still eased in the red as investors remained jittery over the volatile US economy.

The main share Philippine Stock Exchange index shed 0.76 points, or 0.11 percent, to close at 4,219.58. The PSEi

STOCKS B2

Philippine exports rose 19.1% to $4.3B in April

By Rica T. Dichoso

THE PHILIPPINES' export receipts grew by 19.1 percent from that of the same month last year, according to data from the National Statistics Office.

The "significant" growth in exports was led by manufactured goods, agriculture and mineral products, according to the National Economic and Development Authority (Neda).

NSO data showed that export earnings amounted to $4.3 billion, higher than the $3.61 billion recorded in April 2010. However, there was a 1.1 percent month-on-month decline from the $4.35 billion in export earnings booked in March 2011.

From January to April this year, exports from merchandise exports grew by 18.6 percent to $13.639 billion, from $11.496 billion during the same period a year earlier.

Even though demand for electronics had softened, Philippine exports continued to grow driven by agro-based and mineral products, Neda said in a statement.

"Improving sales of non-manufacturing products... will provide support for continued growth in exports this year should the electronics industry slow down," said Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Cayetano W. Paderanga Jr.

World markets continue to favor prices of coconut products, as well as copper metal, pushing up Philippine exports, Paderanga said.

"Current oil prices have been on an upward as a result of tight supply of crude from the Philippines, while copper price gained from re-stocking in China and the shrinking production among major exporters," the Neda chief added.

Exports of copper metal grew by 284 percent, while exports of coconut products grew by 76.6 percent, according to the NSO.

MERCHANDISE B2

Foreign direct investments stood at a net inflow in March

By Reena V. Domingo

FOREIGN DIRECT investments stood at a net inflow of $167 million in March, jumping 142 percent year-on-year, even as investors remained on guard over rising global concerns, according to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

BSP Governor Amando M. Tetangco Jr. said in a statement that positive balances were recorded across all categories in March, including equity capital, reinvested earnings and "other" capital.

Net reinvested earnings and other capital yielded net inflows of $35 million and $96 million, respectively.

At the same time, net equity capital infusion amounted to $46 million—a turnaround from a net outflow of $4 million in the same month of 2010.

Results in March put the net FDI inflows in the first quarter to $471 million, or 30.6 percent less than the $585 million posted during the same period a year ago.

The decline was observed "as investors remained cautious on account of issues/articles brought about by the sovereign debt problems in Europe, political unrest in the Middle East and North Africa, and the disasters that struck Japan," Tetangco said.

Capital other than equity and reinvested earnings accounted for bulk of FDI inflows in the first quarter with $277 million, dropping by 17.8 percent from the $337 million recorded in 2010. This capital consists mainly of intercompany borrowing and lending between foreign direct investors and their subsidiaries or affiliates in the Philippines.

Also, reinvested earnings showed a net inflow of $123 million, down by 58.3 percent from $183 million reported last year.

On the other hand, net equity capital inflows from January to March rose 88 percent to $61 million.

This was mainly on account of gross equity capital placements channeled to the real estate, manufacturing, and mining and quarrying sectors, which amounted to $125 million.

First quarter inflows came largely from the United States, Singapore and Hong Kong.

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Alliance rights offer OKd

Food firm to acquire US-based salmon company

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINE STOCK Exchange has approved a P272 million stock rights offering by Alliance Select Foods International Inc., which is raising fresh equity to acquire Massachusetts-based salmon smoking and curing firm Spence & Co. Ltd.

The offering of 271.27 million shares to existing shareholders is priced at P1 a share, equivalent to a 23.20 percent discount to the one-month weighted average price of Alliance's common shares for the 15-day trading period ending June 6.

Each eligible shareholder has the right to buy one share for every 2.1 common shares held as of record date. The offering will start on July 4 and end on July 7, based on the offer circular.

Abacus Capital & Investment Corp. is the lead manager and underwriter of the offering.

Alliance recently entered into a deal to acquire 100 percent of Spence & Co. Ltd. for $8.3 million, a deal seen transforming the food firm into a regional seafood processing giant. This will be Alliance's third standard subsidiary venture, which is also seen helping the PSE-listed firm make inroads into the lucrative US seafood market.

Spence, which was founded in Stockton, MA in 1998, specializes in the production of smoked salmon and seafood in the Scottish tradition of its founder Alan Spence. It caters to the high-end consumers market in the United States.

Seafood Haven as Alliance Seafood International Inc., which is raising fresh equity to acquire Massachusetts-based salmon smoking and curing firm Spence & Co. Ltd.

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Meanwhile, Alliance

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OBITUARIES

Antonia M. Dominguez

Alejandro Umali Mejia

Republic of the Philippines
ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

(CASE NO 2010-072 MC)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on 1 April 2010, the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) filed with the Commission a petition docketed as ERC Case No. 2010-072 MC, entitled **IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE UNIFORM GENERATION RATE ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM (UGRAM), INCLUDING THE PROPOSED GENERATION RATE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2010, AND THE PROPOSED GENERATION RATE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2010, AND THE PROPOSED GENERATION RATE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2010, AND THE PROPOSED GENERATION RATE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2010, AND THE PROPOSED GENERATION RATE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2010, AND THE PROPOSED GENERATION RATE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2010, AND THE PROPOSED GENERATION RATE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2010, AND THE PROPOSED GENERATION RATE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2010, AND THE PROPOSED GENERATION RATE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2010, AND THE PROPOSED GENERATION RATE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE 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BUSINESS

Banks' bad loans dipped further in April

Forum Energy seeks partners to develop Sampaguita project

By Jerry S. Bonoa

SIS-BASED Forum Energy Plc is seeking potential partnerships to accelerate the exploration and development of the Sampaguita gas discovery within the Reed Bank Basin.

Robert Nicholson, executive chair of Forum Energy, said he expected the completion of the company's first sub-phase work programs for Service Contract 72 to give them "significant additional information."

The firm, Nicholson explained, will enable the company to "better assess the size, net development economics and potential partnership options for the SC 72 [block or as a] critical time in the development of this important asset."

The Sampaguita project alone was estimated to contain as much as 3.4 trillion cubic feet of gas, aside from the huge discovery, the SC 72 field was expected to contain at least eight other potential leads.

Given the resources covered by SC 72, Forum Energy had said that it was more enough to form the foundations for a liquefied natural gas (LNG) project, similar to the Malampaya development to gas power projects.

A number of options can be made available to Forum Energy for monetizing the gas produced from Sampaguita gas field, which included establishing a new LNG export facility; building a pipeline to access capacity in Shell Exploration BV's existing infrastructure at the Malampaya; and selling into the Philippine market.

Latest block 72 reinterpretation report that has already completed the necessary seismic surveys over the Sampaguita gas field, allowing the company to identify the best drillable targets within the highly rich prospect.

Industry's cash buffer versus defaults also up

By Russel W. Domingo

THE BANKING industry's bad debts remained below 3 percent of their total loan portfolio for the third month in a row, easing by 0.04 percentage point to 2.9% percent in April from the March level.

Data from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas also showed that the non-performing loans (NPL) ratio went down by 0.10 percentage point from 3.39 percent in April 2010.

According to the BSP, the change over the previous month developed amid the expansion in total loan outstanding for growth at 0.8%.

NPLs rose to P83.44 billion in April, or by 3.25 percent from P82.41 billion in March.

At the same time, the total loan portfolio rose to P1.83 trillion or by 2.57 percent from P1.78 billion.

Taking out loans between banks, the NPL ratio was also reduced down to 2.16 percent in April from 2.21 percent to the previous month and 2.7% percent from a year ago.

The BSP attributed the decline to the end of regular loans by 2.93 percent to P2.043 trillion.

Also, the ratio of restructured loans to total loans went down to 1.46 percent from 1.54 percent in March and 1.74 percent in the same month last year.

This was due to gross restructured loans falling by 1.45 percent or P42.21 billion.

The ratio of real and other properties acquired (ROPA) to gross assets remained at 1.46 percent compared to the March level, but improved from the year-ago level of 2.34 percent.

The improvement was due to the reduction of ROPA outpacing the decline in gross assets.

Moreover, the ratio of non-performing assets (NPAs) to gross assets went up to 2.35 percent from 2.32 percent to the previous month, and improved from 3.09 percent over the year.

The expansion was observed as NPAs increased while gross assets decreased.

Further, the BSP found that banks provided enough provisioning against potential credit losses, with the coverage strengthening to 126 percent of bad debts from 125.4 percent in March.

The low levels of bad loans as well as the bad loan ratio in the local banking industry is being aided, in part, by the low interest environment which has prevailed both locally and internationally since the the outbreak of the global financial crisis.

Of late, however, monetary authorities have begun raising interest rates gradually in an effort to counter inflationary pressures.

BPO industry 'near hires' get boost from Informatics

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

THE INFORMATICS technology-business process outsourcing (IT-BPO) industry is expanding at a pace that makes other sectors of the economy absolutely green with envy.

CORPORATE CITIZEN

According to data from the Business Processing Association of the Philippines (BPAP), the number industry is expected to bring in as much as $25 billion in revenues and provide employment to economy as 1.3 million Filipinos by 2016.

But if these estimates are to be translated to hard reality that will contribute to the economy as a significant way, the communication and technical skill set of Filipinos with the potential to join the growing IT-BPO arena has to be enhanced.

Pedi Ibarra is the first time only one in 10 who apply for a job in the IT-BPO sector gets employed because the communication and IT skills of the other nine hopefuls fall to make the grade.

To help improve the odds for the applicants, Informatics Philippines, a leader in IT education, has spearheaded since December 2010 a program called Jvantil for Higher Information Technology Education (SHIFT) that will provide so-called "mid-level" of the IT-BPO sector with the skill set they need to land a job in the industry that pays much more than the minimum wage.

That crucial skill set will come through discussions and support from the private sector, local government units, non-government organizations, BPO member companies, academes and industries. The pooled funds and expertise will then be channeled through the SHIFT program to up-to-date IT-vocational and the necessary to take full advantage of the high demand in the growing IT-BPO industry.

The Business Processing Association of the Philippines is part of the program and intends to tap part of the training fund under SHIFT to transform the knowledge into actual hires of BPAP-member companies in the need of new personnel. BPAP will come up with a memorandum of action to sustain the scholarships.

Aside from funds, SHIFT will also facilitate donations of IT equipment and infrastructure as well as software and educational materials. It is also hopes to get volunteers to teach IT classes to students and young professionals and offer internship opportunities to the most competitive and financially rewarding jobs.

"The current misconception [is] that we have a boring course in schools and what the industry is looking for [is] that we have an [easy] way to get going," said Informatics CEO Leo Rimpos. "There is a need to address the rapid growth that the IT-BPO industry is posting. It all starts with quality education."

The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda) has already committed P45 million to kickstart the programs designed to make more Filipinos eligible to take a high paying job in the IT-BPO industry.

The 2009 Ibon Asia IT Salary Benchmark Survey shows that an IT employee in the Philippines earns a salary of P363,264, by considering the country average family income, estimated at about P179,000 by the National Statistical Coordination Board. Thus, getting employed in the IT sector is a surefire way to improve the standard of living of qualified Filipinos.

"It's all about a shift in the way we view things. As soon as a high-value industry such as information technology has already been presented to us Filipinos. With emerging expertise and combined efforts, we will be able to highlight on the productivity and success of our workforce," Rimpos said.

Informatics, for its part, is providing scholarships for IT education, tracking graduates and accepts donations of personal computers that will be used in IT training. It also targets overseas Filipino workers looking for a reason to stay in the country.

"Our role here is also to enable companies, individuals and governments to have a more inclusive ecosystem for information technology training," Rimpos says.

He stresses in an interview that the IT sector is not just about the BPO sector. There are other sectors opening up here and abroad that Filipinos can capitalize and overcome any deficits, which will include gaming and mobile phone applications, as well as digital publications and animation.

INFORMATICS CEO Leo Rimpos (left) and Tesda director Joel Villanueva at right, with SHIFT scholar Jessyca Dayrit

Editor: Cesar O. Mangosong

SCIENCE/HEALTH

There's life after near death

Text and photos by Charlie E. Rubio

MANY HEART attack survivors fear that any form of exercise, including sex, could land them back in the hospital or worse, in the graveyard.

But according to one of the country's foremost authorities on cardiac rehabilitation, the chance of that to happen is surprisingly small. In fact, patients should be encouraged to start exercising a few days after this life-changing event.

"While a heart attack—also called a myocardial infarction, or MI—is definitely frightening, survivors should not be scared to try any form of exercises. Other exercise as this has a favorable effect on heart function. They should realize that the heart will become better with exercise session and with continued exercise, over a longer period of time," said Dr. Adolfo Bellosillo when he heads the Makati Medical Center's Cardiac Rehabilitation and Preventive Cardiology Unit.

Cardiac rehabilitation is a program that helps patients who've had a heart attack rediscover their lives and prevent them from having another attack or to prevent their current conditions from worsening.

Bellosillo, who is founder and president of the Foundation for Life Education on Heart Diseases, identified exercises like swimming, walking, stationary biking or running as very effective in the recovery process. Furthermore, he added that if the survivor is able to perform these exercises, there is is also all right for them to resume sex.

"Why not? Surviving a heart attack should not keep the person from enjoying sex since more since the risk of having a heart attack during sex is extremely low. Only about 2 percent (or 2 in 100) of heart attack patients have problems," Bellosillo said. He cited a study that found there was no significantly hazardous to heart patients of the 1,000 heart attack sufferers who died of heart attack during sex, 80 percent were sleeping.

We explained that if the person just had a heart attack, the last thing he or she needs is to have stressed and do nothing.

"The best chance of recovering, especially for stable patients is to get back on track with exercise as soon as possible. They must also resume to the usual advice for patients not to move for at least a month after a heart attack. There's also the usual practice to immediately limit their sexual activities for heart attack patient," Bellosillo even noted.

Red alert!

Heart attack occurs when the supply of blood and oxygen to an area of heart muscle is blocked, usually by solid. In common artery. Damage can prevent or most heart damage that is. If the person gets help quickly," he reminded.

Bellosillo said in adult and he these early manifestations:

- **Pressure, fullness, squeezing or pain**
- **Pain or discomfort in the back, stomach or one or both arms, discomfort or abnormal pain or sensations within the person's neck or jaw.**
- **Nine basics of health.**
- **Any of the above symptoms accompanied by nausea or vomiting, dizziness or light-headedness.**

"If you encounter any or all of these symptoms, stop whatever you're doing and seek attention of anyone who may be able to help to assist the patient(s). . . remember that missed that you're having a heart attack could kill you.

Charlie E. Rubio

BELLOSILLO says the July 2 seminar intends participants to reduce and experience their life-threatening risk factors and avoid being scared of cardiac rehabilitation program," the doctor noted.

Bellosillo said people who started an exercise program a few days after having a heart attack showed much better psychological state than those who waited a month or more.

"In fact, patients who are still in hospital beds should be given exercises as simple as taking their arms (told if they are well too small or still immobile," he added.

Smaller risk

According to Bellosillo, survivors who completed exercise experience a relatively smaller risk of getting another heart attack after periods of exercises as compared with those counterparts who didn't get to doubt regular physical activity before.

"The more the fitter one gets, the lower that person's risk of succumbing to a heart attack happened by physical activity," Bellosillo, adding that heart attack survivors lead Dolce Gina having normal feeling even, for themselves. Always remember, you already survived a heart attack, don't risk another," he reminded.

Bellosillo could be will explain more of these interesting developments in heart attack in the July 9 seminar titled "A Their Life after a Heart Attack" (taking Tools to Life and Life as Normal as Possible," organized by the Makati Medical Center's Cardiac Rehabilitation and Preventive Cardiology Unit in cooperation with the PLDHO.

He said that the whole-day (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) forum aims to educate heart attack survivors and those who just underwent heart surgery as well as other interested individuals especially those suffering from high blood pressure to control their cholesterol level. It will be held at the 4th floor, Makati parent Hall of the Makati Medical Center's main building.

Those who will be joined by other experts who will discuss specific topics like how the building of life in one's active with develop in the first place (like conditions, called adherent heart, to reproduction in the post-cancer of heart or lack and strokes) as well as guidelines for survivors on which food to eat.

A unique musical presentation titled "Heart Songs" by the Makati Medical Center Choir and the UP Concert Chorus will be also held after the seminar.

"Considering the limited space of the venue, we definitely appreciate interested participants to make advance reservation at the Makati Medical Center's Heart Station, or by calling 888-8999 (local 5212) or 5320 or by e-mailing info@mmc.com.ph," Bellosillo requested.

Buzzing with theories

DISCOVER

Marissa Antolin Balilon

EDGAR "Ed" Jose the United Nations Environment Programme (Unep) released a report indicating that bee population around the world had declined significantly in some places but is stable in the province. The disappearance of these insects is a problem because in the Unep report not all, "out of some 100 crop species which provide 90 percent of food worldwide, 71—of these are pollinated by bees."

The pollination value of one tonne of pollination-dependent crop is approximately five times higher than one of those crop species that do not depend on bees.

The Unep report includes a number of factors that might be contributing to the drop in bee populations, such as pesticides, pollution, climate change and habitat destruction. One factor they don't mention, however, is the effects of cell phones on bees, an experiment that has been making the rounds in recent weeks. While the Unep report does note that bees seem to be influenced by magnetic and electrical fields, the authors noted that there was insufficient data to make any conclusions.

Cell phones' effects

One of the studies being cited in the report studies the effects of cell phones on bee swarm from India's Punjab University and first appeared in the journal Toxicology Letter released back in January. Researchers separated two groups of honeybees in a hive, one with cell phones of the same make and model that were connected to the same cellular network. A third group of bees was kept away from any cell phones and served as the experimental control.

One phone was set on "call" mode with a recorded message simulating an active conversation while the other was on but not in use. The researcher found that the bees in the experimental group were having less effect on the interconnectedness.

They found that the phones and cordless phone bursts in the hive exposed to the cell phones were higher than the levels of the bees in the control group, suggesting they said, that the bees were being stressed by the devices. The study was not done over a long enough period of time. Incorrect, to see if the cell phones stressed the bees enough to make them leave the area.

Dropping population

If nothing about the Unep report and the reports linking dropping bee populations with cell phone usage is changing your mood, consider how the bees feel. According to researchers at Newcastle University in the United Kingdom, the insects can get moody information that could be useful for those studying the biochemistry of emotions.

"If some scientific research on emotions in could be translated in insects, this would lead to a reduction in the numbers of sentient vertebrate animals used in research," said Melissa Bateson, first author of the study that appeared in the journal Current Biology this week of June 2. "Thus can research potentially has important implications for animal welfare."

Bateson and her colleagues first trained bees to recognize two different colors that they could get a sweet treat and one that didn't. Then some of the trained bees were stressed after researchers simulated an attack on them by a predator by literally shaking their up.

Researchers found that the bees exposed to the two colors once more, the researchers found that the shaken bees were less likely to react to the scent of the less-sweet treat than were the bees in the control group. This confirms, Bateson and her colleagues said, suggests that the bees have gained a more negative view of the world as a result of the attack, which would suggest that the insects can express mentally like humans, cats and dogs.

"We have shown that the emotional response of bees is an emotive word on mammals similar to those of humans, than previously thought," said Bateson's co-author and the study senior author Geraldine Wright. "Bees stressed by a simulated predator attack exhibit pessimistic ruminating that was not in depressed and anxious people."

(E-mail the author at rmanio@inquirer.com.)

UP professor emeritus on the RH bill

MEDICAL FILES

Rafael Castillo, M.D.

AS A reminder to our column last week on the RH Bill, Dr. Ramon F. Abrenica, Jr., a highly esteemed professor emeritus at the University of the Philippines College of Medicine and a distinguished fellow of the Philippine Academy of Science and Technology, emailed me his personal views on the current bone regarding the controversial bill. His arguments and evidence-based with detailed flaws to back up his arguments. It is thorough scientific dissertation in itself, but for lack of space, we can't print it in full. I had taken the liberty to excerpt Professor Abrenica's points for this week's column.

"Free health and lack of sanitation in the overpopulated or informal settlers' encampments have a the problem attended to be addressed by the SIH bill. Singapore, for one, would never need the RH Bill. Just look around the squatters' sites in our country, one can picture the relevance of the RH bill—filth, malnourished issues. Environmental health can going birth to low birth weight infants contribute to higher mortality into the cycle related to inefficient health and nutrition. Obviously these deprived population need education, economic support, and free choice to only access to family planning methods. The husband of the government RH Bill does not address the personal and psychosocial needs—ethnographic problem is the specific existing population explosion with its one-size-fits-all fame.

"Should 'sex education' be given at the elementary school level? Neither these specialists or the parents or teachers themselves. Do such sex educational value needs what is the scientific evidence? Anecdotal, speculative or personal experience to sentence-based opinion. Evidence-based data must focus on results, published in the American Journal of Public Health, 2005 August, 95(8):1430-1441) in the that scientifically designed study that was performed in three Hawaiian Islands (kindergarten to fifth- or sixth-grade) schools (both) et al. assessed the five years' effectiveness of a comprehensive elementary school health education program to prevent substance use, violence behaviors and sexual activity by using a matched-pair, cluster-randomized, controlled design in 13 intervention and 16 control schools.

Fuzzi

"With grades (n = 2741) self-reported on lifetime substance use, violence and sexual activities. Teachers of the participant students (n = 1221) analyzed the students' substance use and violence. The Hawaii Healthy Action Program Intervention (Hapi) followed students who were in their 1st or 2nd grade at baseline (2001-2002 academic year) and who stayed in the study schools through 8th grade (2006-2007 academic year). Hapi ended in the 2006-2007 academic year for the 2nd-grade cohort). The program encouraged teacher-student interaction, structured or interactive classroom activities and cross-grade or peer participation related to promote the core elements of the Pope classroom curriculum.

"Lessons in the Hapi include 'Self-concept, social and body positive actions (e.g., substances, physical activities, decision-making skills, motivation to learn), social and emotional actions for managing stress responsibility (e.g., conflict resolution, time management), getting along with others (e.g., empathy, respect), and healthy actions to support healthy lifestyle (e.g., being honest with yourself and others, and self-improvement (e.g., goal-setting, courage to try new things, persistence).

"Students exposed to the Pope, for at least three years, had significantly lower rates of substance use (alcohol, ever, 44 percent vs 75 percent; lower experiences with substance use and indeed behaviors and an 89 percent lower rate of engaging in voluntary sexual activity than did students who received healthy as usual. Furthermore, students who participated provided active content and students who did not receive active parental consent conducted no significant differences.

"Therefore, scientifically designed, depicted, structured and well-planned behavioral and gender values are at least given in school with or even without parental consent. The fact that students are enrolled in school is a well-planned behavior of the community. Should teachers and principals be required to ask permission for every subject matter to be taught in school?

"Finally, the (RH bill should be enacted into) law; it can be a panacea for the majority poor."

Learning science in an interactive way

By Tiarnia B. Samaniego

THE TELETUBBIES can claim world fame with Mateo Dupuyas in the field of sports. Dimitri Hontiveros is in Hollywood and Isabel Adriano in Broadway. But the scientists are not to slouches to see Bird Arnaldo in the field of science and innovation.

It may, however, not be long enough before the Philippines can begin producing its own breed of world-known scientists and innovators. Thanks to the help of the Bida Weeks Field Science Discovery Center.

Opened in 2007, the center was the brainchild of mall magnate Henry Sy Sr., who then wanted to provide Filipinos with a "world-class science museum," says Arturo C. Caballe Jr., center operations manager for the Science Discovery Center.

In an interview with the Inquirer, Caballe says the oldest by envisioned a place where learning can both be exciting and entertaining.

"We grew up with chalkboard and paper, most of the usual instructions with our teachers but Mr. Sy wanted to provide a better learning experience for education and he placed that in his mind," he explains.

Housed in a new 3,000-square-meter space at the SM Mall of Asia, the center holds a whole plethora of Science concepts—from electricity to planets, technology, the human body, the earth and even the universe. Built a center was the biggest of its kind in the Philippines and, for a while, in the whole of Asia—before Myanmar had put a similar facility. Caballe claims.

According to him, the center features a number of attractions combined in eight galleries where one could learn about science in a fun and interactive way. The main attraction would be the digital planetarium with its 150 seats and a massive 25-meter, 360-degree dome screen.

The planetarium has already featured a number of films where one could learn about astronauts, robots and even followed one to learn about the universe while having to know their seat. However, according to Caballe, the planetarium's lineup of shows for the near six months ground for kids.

New film

"We decided to welcome the school year with a new film that would educate the kids. It's entitled 'Our World,' (the Sky: Big Bird's Adventure," he says.

"Our World, Our Sky: Big Bird's Adventure" is a film featuring the well-loved character of Sesame Street. The show runs for a period for kids aged 2 to 6 years, with the film's duration of 30 minutes. It will follow "super-inquisitive fellow Bird's extraordinary journey positive attitude toward science and his basic scientific curiosity," Caballe explains.

The 23-minute film, which runs three times during weekdays and four times during weekends, is being filmed in Hawaii. Pia Dia, who is starring from Ocean Time and Wa Ha Time would to learn more about the Moon, in Big Bird suggests that there was then suggestion to travel there. Once on the moon, the Sesame Street characters quickly learn different facts about the moon and how it differs from Earth. Back on Earth, Big Bird, Elmo and Dia also visited different areas though they late to have different countries, they will share the same sky.

"What sets this apart from our other films is that children attending the show can interact as they watch, drawing constellations and counting the time it takes for the sun to set. Children will also have a chance to share their sense of wonder about the night sky, and the children in the audience screaming (they 20) responded well. It is quite fascinating to observe the kids answer the characters on the big screen," Caballe explains.

Aside from the learning, the film also targets to feature cross-cultural appreciation between different countries. "In fact videos are presented in three by of 100 Penny Hindsight, he was so happy and he liked the idea. He said that with the Chinese character and version we can show it in Chinese schools," Caballe says.

To further make it more, the Bida Discovery Science Center will be merging with the family entertainment center of the Sy family.

"We want to make it more enjoyable so we will merge with SM Storyland, SM Bowling and IMAX Theater. We're managed to package it with the movie so that after the movie, when they come there, they can see the planetarium, play a game and (get to) the rides," Caballe concludes.

SMDC CONDO CRAZE

17 different properties offered under one roof

SMDC Exec. SVP Chinli Rodriguez, Sales Director Jill Gatchalian, SMDC Private Marketing Head Jeffrey Lim, SMDC VP for marketing Jeanne Chan, SMDC Private Marketing Head Jeffrey Lim, Ronac Development Corp. President Ronnie Cruz, SMDC Exec. VP Chinli Rodriguez, AHPI Vice President for Marketing Ma. Theresa de Guia, SVP and COO, SMDC Anne Curtis, SM Residences Group president Henry Sy Jr., vice chair and CEO, SMDC

By Theresa S. Samaniego

FILIPINOS HAVE long had this penchant for features and fears, where they expect to get great result and real bargains—from food, clothes, appliances to gadgets—practically everything a consumer would want and need.

But what about a mix devoted solely for selling condominiums? And from one developer at that?

Yet again, SM Development Corp., the country's busiest growing real estate developer, pulled off another first as it recently opened the "SMDC Condo Center."

One-stop shop

"Well, we're really in a way, borrowing from the consumer trend of having cities. One point to that: it's not only consumer products that are there to enjoy, it's like something like a [condominium] is also equally beneficial as a concept to have a one-stop shop," said Dina Chantrell, senior vice president for marketing, SMDC.

In an interview during the opening of the SMDC Condo Center, Chantrell explained that to avoid her workers the use of SMDC houses everything under one roof since it has 17 different property developments across the metro and in nearby provinces.

"Because sometimes you are so busy you don't have the time to go from one place to another trying to visit all the different projects. While it's also true that there is a lot of marketing available for you, we have housing innovation and we even have some give-aways so it's a very good concept," Chantrell explained.

This one-stop shop, she further said, would allow potential condo buyers to choose from the company's wide array of choices

CONDO TOWN: Photo inset shows a model unit of Breeze Residences in Cebu City.

subsequently and even get good interest rates.

During this Condo Crazy, which will run from June 6 to 30, home residents will be able to avail themselves of flexible payment schemes and an exclusive interest rate of 5.75 percent for the first year of payment through SMDC's partner banks, RCBC and Chinabank.

"SM always gives you good value. Our condos are very affordable, it's anathema for you not to get [a unit]. The 5.75 percent rate is already very low, and we're even [reducing] conversion fees because normally you would pay P25,000 for conversion. But for the next two months, you will have to pay no

LIVE in your very own slice of tranquility at SM's retail Residences, overlooking serene gardens at SMDC Condo Center.

Anchor Land builds Chinatown's tallest luxurious condominium

By Iverson Cora

TO INFUSE boutique to the success of the heartwarming, affluent Chinese-Filipino business community in Manila and elsewhere, a sizeable condominium tower with all the trimmings of an upscale hotel will soon rise in the heart of Manila's Chinatown.

Named Anchor Skyrises, the condominium will make available 346 residential units and hotel-like amenities that are at par with five-star hotels in the country at 56 stories high, the condominium project is said to be the tallest skyscraper to dot the bustling commercial center and claimed to be the "tallest in all Chinatowns in the world outside of China."

Especially designed for the affluent Filipino-Chinese and "genuinely SoHo" residents, all the units are oriented toward the south following age-old feng shui traditions and will be architecturally sound according to Chinese living.

Fully-fitted units

All units are fully fitted, with high ceiling for generous air flow, kitchens and dining areas will be spacious. The model units show generous spaces for architects' landings in the rooms.

Since its launch in February, 50 percent of the total units is sold. Our totally different are two- to five-bedroom units priced at P9 million to P23 million each. Penthouse units with a size of 618 square meters, on the other hand, cost P70 million. The units range from 118 sq m to 293 sq m. Five bedroom lofts, measuring 144 sq m, are also up for grabs.

"It's like staying in a luxurious hotel, only you are actually at home," said Elizabeth Ventura, vice president for sales and marketing of property firm Anchor Land Holdings Inc. (ALH).

"So you enter the building, we promise to deliver the same kind of service you get from the most elegant hotel, complete with concierge services, front desk personnel and a duty manager. Underneath the ground 24 hours a day are security," Ventura said.

The project is ALH's third project in the district. Construction of the Anchor Skyrises is in full swing at the 3,600-sqm property on Reggio Street in Binondo.

Amenities

The condominium, which will rise almost one hectare in Filipino-Chinese market, will feature amenities that include a 20-meter lap pool, children's pool, basketball and volleyball courts, playground, jogging path and a landscaped garden. The building's reception area will be equipped with advanced CCTV cameras and hotel-like elevators will be fitted with privileged access cards.

Situated at P5 billion, Anchor Skyrises is considered the property firm's flagship project in Chinatown, said Steve Li, ALH vice chair in an interview with Inquirer Property.

"It is designed to change the landscape of Manila while designing an epitome of the success that Filipino-Chinese business community has reached," Li furthered.

Another interesting feature of the Skyrises is the VIP Golfers Club that could rival up to a maximum of 30 people at a time. The club will be equipped with business office suites and wireless internet connectivity exclusive to unit owners.

A CLOSEST replica of the Anchor Skyrises recently unveils the three-storey swanky showroom.

All common areas in the whole building will have security cameras without any blind spot and staff with highly trained security personnel, a helipad atop the building will allow to meet distinguished residents easy mobility and the security they desire.

Company officials said the project is selling briskly like its other projects in the district. A big part of the success, according to Li, is due to the company's "bold decision to construct an ultra-modern and very elegant" showroom on nearby Salazar Street, across the Presidential Tai House.

The three-storey swanky showroom is perhaps the biggest and the most sophisticated in the country with a floor area of more than 1,800 sq m—already a condominium in its own right. It is open for viewing daily. The 1,000+ features a baby grand piano and a 12-foot high replica of Anchor Skyrises.

Is this all sounds and swagger? He won't until 2014 if it lives up to its hype.

Anchor Skyrises shows's luck in its green efforts. The building design will be supervised by Gilbert Ua of Arya Design, a renowned firm whose works include notable green buildings in various parts of the world. Green firm Lessmore talent charge of its window systems, it water recirculation systems and also to please to regulate the building's energy consumption.

ALH recently tapped HH Corp. as general contractor for the Anchor Skyrises. HH Corp. will be responsible for all civil, structural and architectural works on the building as well as air-conditioned, electric and fire safety components.

Aside from the Skyrises, ALH has two projects in the pipeline for this year. Li said the firm has acquired an additional 16,149-sqm lot in Asturias City fronting Manila Bay which will be developed into a mixed-use complex.

ALH TOP HONCHOS: Anne Stephens Lee, Partner Asia representative, Ventura and vice chair Steve Li

Lito Cesar D. Mangonong
PROPERTY

The pros and cons of roofing materials

By Tess R. Salazar

THE ROOF isn't just a structure over our heads but it's also known as the "space," or the backbone of the structure—the one that protects us amidst the house's "vital organs."

Sharing with Inquirer Property the pros and cons of different roof types on the Philippines are Gilberto J. Morcilla, past president of the United Architects of the Philippines Iloilo chapter [and] now practicing architect of Bel-Air (Bel Air Center Mall); House Depot marketing manager Alvin Uy; and forensic architect Pavilion L. Hong, FUAP, FPIIE Apec architect, and outstanding environmental planner of 2007 by the Professional Regulation Commission. A forensic architect such as Hong is a professional consultant who studies every stage of a building's life cycle, from concept and construction to the end of its useful life.

Several roofing materials available locally are the pre-painted long-span metal roofing, corrugated GI (galvanized iron) sheets, clay or ceramic roof tiles, fiber-cement shingles, asphalt and wood shingles. Morcilla says some buildings accentuate the use of another material, the concrete roof deck.

The most commonly used roofing material by each and type of application would be the unpainted corrugated G.I. roofing for the low-end market, admits Morcilla says, as the cheapest but would die over time and deteriorate the fastest if not painted properly.

"Since corrosion sets in, it is very difficult to stop the deterioration, and the best way to arrest the problem is to replace the whole sheet," Morcilla says.

However, according to Uy, GI roof sheets are economical and practical. "There are GI sheets now that are stamped and molded to look like clay roofs and are already available in custom colors to resemble clay roofs."

STRONG 2000 offers a special style roof like clay tiles, allows sunlight in to penetrate the roof.

Most economical

It adds that GI sheet roofs are the most economical in terms of cost per square meter, and the required support structure is also most economical. It is the easiest to patch up, as well, since these can be easily performed by a homeowner.

"Under extreme situations where the flat GI roof has been rusted through and through and looks like cheddar cheese, one can choose to hire a professional company to apply a one-component roof coat." By explosion that this is sprayed on and leaves a 1.5-inch thick layer of waterproofed, insulated hard foam in-place. This sheet also has excellent insulation property that during heavy rains would not create too much noise (this is also called sheeting-roofing).

For his part, Hong says pre-painted long-span metal roofing is practical and economical. "Less parts mean less chances of leaks," he says.

Morcilla also pre-painted long-span metal roofing is cheaper, by and to mid-upper class markets, and able to homes in mid economic. "Some suppliers even warrant their pre-painted products up to 15 years against corrosion. They also perform better against leaks, being cut according to the length required, thus avoiding horizontal overlapping, which are the cause of leaks. They are also assembled using a special type of screw called the 'tektorne' with rubber washers which is watertight," he explains.

Morcilla says it would be better to use long-span metal roofing than corrugated straight roofing sheets to eliminate overlapping joints and seams, the potential for leaks. Hong agrees, saying that long-span sheets cover more area, requiring less joints. Both architect and long span sheets are readily available in the market.

He explains that in the Philippines, pre-painted long-span metal roofing made of GI sheets are the most preferred. Other metals such as aluminum, tin, and copper can also be used to produce pre-painted long-span roofing sheets, albeit more expensively.

Hong adds that being pre-painted, the GI sheets are already factory-painted (and usually coated with zinc-aluminum to make it more durable and rust-resistant).

"GI roofing sheets is what is basically meant to when the term 'Sabong tejado' is used," he observes.

Elegant but impractical

Clay or ceramic roof tiles and shingles come in the high-end market. They look elegant but are "very heavy and require metal trusses drawing and battens to keep them in place. They seldom pose a leaking problem, but when they do, it would be a big task to resolve," Morcilla says.

The concrete roof deck is one of the most difficult types of roof to maintain and to repair when leaking sets in. "Even the most expensive type of waterproofing could fail at the slightest molecular-facing application. Sometimes, it takes redoing the whole deck area just to solve a small leak, because it is so difficult to find the source of the leak in the concrete," Morcilla explains.

Hong advises homeowners to avoid using asphalt shingles as their roofing material because these capture and conduct the heat toward the inside of the house.

For more inquiries or advice, e-mail architect Morcilla at bel-h2000@yahoo.com.ph, House Depot at alvin.uy@yahoomail-pnt.com or SL. Hong Architects & Associates at lhongarch@yahoo.com.

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Make sure your home is protected from the attack of termites. For further information on termite control, you may call Jardine Distribution, Inc. hotline 02-8408011-15, 8803-0430626 or email at

ROADTALK Special

Fording into the flood

By Bochi Santos

THE RAINY season is now in full swing and as I write this, it's been raining non-stop for the past 36 hours. Preparation is key to avoiding any automotive accidents which might occur, but at the same time, flash floods hit us with extreme ferocity and speed, so we're left with no choice but to brave the floods. Here are some tips, broken down into before, during and after wading through floods.

Before

1.) Make sure your car is in perfect working order. All your electrical accessories—especially your lights—are working properly. Interior windmill will limit visibility severely, both for us while driving, and for other cars and motorists who might not see us driving while also on the road. Make sure your rear tail lamps and hazard lights are in good working order.

2.) Inspect your tires. If they look severely worn, rotate the tires and/or have a 4-wheel alignment performed on your vehicle. If the tire tread is down to the wear bars, replace them immediately. Pump up your tire pressure 3-5 psi higher than usual. Before that, Top Gear Magazine's off-road editor and head of Land Cruiser Adventures Inc. 4X4 driving and adventure expert, Andrew Ilao, to help prepare your blow-out in case we run over pot holes or do not see, such as when covered in flood water, or debris brought about by floods.

3.) Make sure you gas up at least 1/3 or more to ensure you have adequate fuel in your car in floods usually mean major traffic mayhem.

4.) Inspect your car, particularly the underside. If there are fluids leaking such as oil from your engine, or brake / hydraulic fluids from the brake lines, clutch lines and power steering lines, chances are that if you find yourself stationary in flood waters, the water pressure can leak into your vehicle's key parts, causing them to fail on you immediately or just as bad, cause long-term damage in the future. Have the leaks fixed immediately and replace or top off your fluids to the correct maximum level specified by your car's manufacturer.

5.) If you're get loose, dangling current-bearers for your engine or motor, electrical wires, wrap them up accordingly in loose sandwich and electrical tape, then fasten them safely and securely to the chassis or engine with zip tie plastic straps. You want to prevent these loose wires snagging on debris on the road causing them to go up or be dislodged, thereby causing your vehicle to stall.

6.) Always have a map or GPS system with you so you can navigate around flooded areas. Finding through flood is always a last option, avoid it like the plague!

7.) Listen to weather and traffic reports regularly prior to leaving your home/office/school. Sometimes staying put and waiting for both flood and traffic to subside might be your safest option.

8.) Always have a complete set of tools inside, particularly jumper cables, a towing cable, a fresh change of clothes and a mobile phone fully-charged, ideally with a car charger in case your car in case you need to call for emergency help/rescue.

9.) Consider becoming a member of the Automobile Association of the Philippines or other similar car clubs. It is well worth the peace of mind.

If pays to know what to do in flood situations. —single or serious. —with the rainy season here.

During through floods

1.) Put on your headlamps, fog lamps and rear fog lamps for better visibility. However avoid turning on your hazard lights because this is a universal signal for a stranded / stalled vehicle. In poor visibility, chances are people might see your blinking hazard lights and misjudge their speed and distance to you, thinking you're a stationary vehicle and might collide with you.

2.) Drive carefully but surely. If you keep hesitating and weaving through the lanes, you might cause an accident because the people behind you are getting impatient. Also, remember that carefully doesn't mean slowly. Drive as quickly as your sensors can keep up because you also want to minimize you and your vehicle's exposure in the detrimental weather conditions. A rig tone is check for moving fast and effort. The heavier the steering feel and effort is, the greater the volume of water is underneath your car's tires, the more you should drive carefully and reduce speed and leave a bigger margin for braking up ahead of you.

3.) Most roads are actually crowned, i.e. the center section is slightly higher than the inner and / or

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Honda CR-V Modulo rules Trans Show Auto Rally

THE Honda team won first place in the sportsutility vehicle (SUV) category of the Trans Show Auto Rally held in the Batangas Racing Circuit (BRC).

Honda Cars Philippines, Inc. (HCPI) recently joined Mr. Boxx Transport Show Auto Rally which was an endurance and driver's type of motorsports activity that involved effective management of time, speed and distance.

Representing the Honda team was the Honda family led by Mr. Ho was joined by his brother-in-law and son Ivan. On board their 2.0 liter Honda CR-V Modulo Sports Edition, the Honda family finished the special stage with the closest time vs that of the given ten minutes and 03 seconds.

The Hondas share the same passion in motorsports. Despite their age range variety in motorsports, the Team Sport Auto Rally was actually the first rally that the three had joined as a team. Edong and Ivan were novices in an event, all the while rally veteran and senior citizen Tito Ho showed a sense of speed rallies. Inherently sporting that challenging spirit, the three geared up and took the competition as an opportunity to learn and have fun with the family.

Before and now, Tip and Ivan, particularly enjoyed the special stage at BRC. "We had a little practice as it is the second time we are here at the BRC and I'm glad I aced!" said Ivan. Having a 10-time national rally champion for a father does not put too much pressure on Ivan anymore. He just enjoys the bonding competition with his dad. "This experience was actually an advance Father's Day treat as we got to spend time doing activity we both love, apart from volleyball," he added.

"For us as race, all the time type of rally, ordinary cars with no special set up can be used," said Tip. "The three-door Honda Batangas seemed to be fun to drive, agile and easy to maneuver like CR-Vs. The CR-V included the dimensions pretty well. Apart from handling, the CR-V Modulo Sports provided a comfortable, sedan-like ride which perfect for city driving and even out of town trips. Driving in and out of the CR-V was also effortless with its practical height, in terms of legroom and cargo area, the CR-V offered quite sizable cabin space," he added.

Over all, the Ishida family of the Honda Cars brand up to what they do best since the team to have fun while making memorable memories.

THE steep Tobog roads proves to be an easy hurdle for the Modulo.

RALLY champion Tip Ishida (center) and son Ivan (right) and brother Edong.

Suzuki Jimny: Tons of off-road fun

FOR THE serious off-roader and erstwhile urban traveler, one needs a vehicle that can efficiently go through all sorts of terrain and even large kinds, yet enjoy premium comforts that rival pricier SUVs have.

And that need is answered by one vehicle—the Suzuki Jimny.

Delivering effortless performance in a small but solid 1,328,000CC had-injected inline four-cylinder that delivers 81 hp and 110 Nm of torque. The numbers may seem miniscule, but combine that with vacuum locking hubs, 4x4 shifting, 1,075 kg curb weight, a 37 degree approach angle, a 45-degree departure angle and a 55 degree ramp break over angle and you have an SUV that goes anywhere willingly without hesitation. This means that you can bring it to hard earth, soft earth, clay, sand and even river crossings, with unyielding power on demand—a trademark of the go-anywhere hallmark of the brand since 1998, when its 1,324 forebear was introduced as a compact 3SUV with a full-time system. Add to that it's high ground clearance, and you've got an all-weather all-rounder that can handle hell or high waters.

If you are concerned with the Jimny's stability when going around corners, the front/rear three link coil rigid axle suspension and power-assisted recirculating ball steering provides tight turning precision right around numerous sharp turning. Decent deceleration comes from a front disc brake and braking/trailing drum rear brake set-up, while side impact beams and synthetic fat oil bar seats prevent anyone in the cabin from slamming into the dashboard, the doors or the front windshield. Halogen headlamps, big fangir chic the JLX) and a third brake light make sure that people can see the Jimny at night, while wipers at the front and rear windshields help with away water and make driving easier in rainy conditions.

The Jimny's cabin allows occupants to watch the SUV's features without getting distracted by what makes the unit move. The comfortable fabric seats provide a soothing appeal to tired spaniards and butts, while a 2-din (JLX) or 1-DIN (JX) radio play tunes from the FM/AM band without any sort of reception problems. The center console can hold small items of all sorts, and 2L bubbles cup holder can handle a large water bottle or coffee containers.

With performance that can match larger 4x4 SUVs and a relaxing cabin, the Suzuki Jimny is sure of off-road this front/rear tires. Try to stay on the very middle of the road as that water will run down to the lower portions of the road, fooling into the rain gutters and sewer and leaving the corner tires with minimal standing flood water.

4.) Keep a steady pedal pressure on the brakes. Hard water could bring the brakes down and push outside of your side, recommended operating temperature range to give instant stopping power in case you have to stop suddenly. Also, wet brakes should always be wiped off from debris such as fine sand and grime which can cause squealing or permanent brake pad or disc surface damage in the future.

5.) Should you be driving through flood water and suddenly stop, keep a steady pressure on the throttle / gas pedal as well, placing the transmission into neutral then revving the engine anywhere from 1,500-3,000rpm constantly to prevent flood water from entering your vehicle's exhaust, causing it to stall and your engine to seal.

6.) Remember that for use with the original / stock ride-height, the safe fording depth through flood water is roughly the very middle of your wheels and tires. If the flood water looks higher than that, find an alternate route.

7.) For SUV's, pick up trucks and other cross-over-based vehicles with a factory-specified elevated ride height, the safe fording depth is the bottom of your car's chassis / underseal pan.

8.) Drive behind bigger vehicles if you can but be careful when doing so and leave 3-5 car lengths at the minimum between you and the bigger vehicle ahead of you. A bigger vehicle, such as a bus or 12-wheel or bigger truck displaces more water, causing the flood waters to part as Moses did with the Red Sea. You'll have less flood water and more clear road ahead of you. Consequently, avoid driving directly alongside those big vehicles. The wake through the flood they cause can completely lift your car's tires off the ground and you lose complete control.

9.) After driving through floods, but vehicles very wet and slippery roads, remember to drive using a higher gear with a very light pedal pressure applied on the gas / accelerator pedal. If you up-shift immediately, the sudden surge in power can cause a loss of traction to the driven wheels, causing you to lose control.

Stranded

1.) Unfortunately, those things can happen. The first thing to do is to immerse your vehicle and leave it completely locked, but leave the hazard lights on.

2.) Exit through the windows or sun / moonroof if you can; you'll want to avoid flooding the interior with dirty, smelly flood waters. Chemically-fast rust and gunking the small car in a very long and irritating process.

3.) Immediately get to safe, higher ground but ideally within plain view of your car and call for emergency help / roadside recovery. Call some family or friends over to accompany you if it is safe. Otherwise, forget your car. Your life is worth far more than any vehicle.

Surviving the aftermath

1.) After you get home safely for the night and down comfortable drinks, open your Thalia for if there is a sign of contamination. Soak out the old fluids and replace with new ones, along with the necessary filters.

2.) Remove all the carpets of your car and check if there are any moist / damp areas. Some cars have sedans plug on the chassis which might be worn out or damaged and you might need to remove these drain plugs so flood water seeps back into your car from those drain plugs.

3.) Once again, get your car up on the lifter, inspect it for leaks and for anything that came loose or damaged while wading through floods and repair / replace those parts as needed.

4.) If there's water contained, it will cause a really bad odor. Leave the car, windows slightly open and when the warm sun for an entire day. You can also leave a couple of charcoal-filled with charcoal to absorb the moisture, or use baking soda liberally sprayed over the seat / damp areas to eliminate odor.

Filing a report

1.) So you car was flooded and stranded, damaged and inoperable. After the flooding incident, take a lot of pictures of the car in all angles, inside and out.

2.) While an affidavit of the entire incident for the insurance company to facilitate a claim and / or be cash claims. A sketch of your location will also be useful, and getting a report from the authorities, be it police or barangay will also help legitimize your claim. Insurance companies are always weary of bogus claims so you better have all the necessary documents and your arguments are straight before the insurance investigator and adjuster.

3.) If having it repaired, is to use or replacing key components with all new parts, particularly all electrical components such as the alternator, starter, battery, ignition coils and all the ECM or engine control modules.

4.) Also, after the car has been fixed, replace all the fluids and filters, even if your new car is covered by insurance. Some long-term damage to the engine and the rest of your car's key components. Contaminated engine oil will not lubricate your engine and cause internal corrosion as well. You'll end up with even more problems in the future.

Fording into the flood

(Continued from B1)

Sizzling: Dodge's new Big 3

By Jason Ang

If Mel and Jackie were young again, we can see it at the Spanish colonial-style house to meet with three sexy new American cars. They were illuminated in straight white floodlights as the rain whipped about their ageless silhouettes. The three myriad curves to be the newest vehicles from Dodge, distributed by GMA Motors: the Durango SUV, Challenger coupe, and Charger sedan.

The Durango caps it as distinctively dodgy upper crust. At 5 m in length the Big Boss of SUVs, but rather it's been a low-slung, sporter profile. The Durango has a face in the vein of the Charger sedan, with a large Dodge crosshair grille sculpted between angular headlamps. The Durango's solid-tile from GMA Motors is dubbed the GrandLAND Sport variant; the top spec model. Durango GrandLAND specific visuals include aggressive 20-inch wheels, plus a leather interior, replete with indirect lighting and an 8-inch touchscreen and cool lighting scheme for the instruments. The GrandLAND can seat up to eight, in three rows of seats. The second and third row can split-fold, allowing for a more versatile interior. Pitch-dark rear folded. Dodge quotes a huge 1,995 liters of cargo space. If more storage is needed, the Durango GrandLAND comes as standard roof rack that incorporates self-storing cross-bars.

Powering the Durango is a 3.6-liter V6 gasoline engine—reportedly the most powerful in its class. The DOHC powerplant puts out 290 hp and 351 Nm of torque. It is mated to a five-speed automatic transmission, sending drive to all four wheels. Towing capacity is 2,500 kg.

More than a the top variant, the Durango GrandLAND comes a long list of standard features, including HID headlamps, power-fold front seats, leather upholstery, keyless fob system and power-adjustable steering column.

The Durango also comes with a handful of safety features, including Curtain 2 airbags, side-impact airbags, front-seat mounted side airbags, traction control, hill start assist, and tire pressure monitor. Traction safety measures include front and side airbags, curtain airbag for all rows, and active head restraints.

The Durango features the Chrysler group's trademark 5.0-connect system, that allows you to do a mobile phone via voice commands. The latest version should enable us not even to a linked phone's contact list. The infotainment system also includes a 30GB hard disk drive. The Durango is available for P1,780,000.

POWER to the max, from left, the Charger, the Durango and the Challenger.

For anyone who has ever Dodged or lit inspiration, blacktop Fever, The Dodge Challenger needs no introduction. It wears its attitude on its fenders. The 1969 original model even in those films, has to command those weighty comfort-inspiring.

There's no way to stop your eyes from looking at the Challenger, any time that you see one. Whether, while body is accentuated with contrasting racing stripes, which makes it unusual by several degrees.

At its heart is a 5.7-liter HEMI V8 engine, good for 372 hp and 542 Nm. The engine is teamed to a five-speed automatic, with power going to the rear wheels. The engine has a fuel-saver mode that allows it to run in four-cylinder mode when less power is needed, seamlessly switching to full V8 output when called upon.

The chassis has been tuned for near 50/50 front/rear weight distribution. It rolls on

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Light trucks of exceptional reliability

By Charles Butan

JAC MAY be a relatively new brand here in the Philippines. And while a lot of Filipinos may not be too familiar, the rest of the world has learned to regard JAC as one of the most trusted and reliable Chinese-made vehicles.

This is why JAC Motors Philippines, the brand's official distributor here, is a step forward in its presence in the local market as more and more Filipino businessmen would believe in the brand especially in the light truck category.

More than an affordable brand of light truck, JAC has four diesel powered models that feature specifications that may rival competing brands.

Each of the model — King, Queen, Prince and Princess — may differ in engine displacement, size, functionality and cargo capacity but they all share similar underpinnings and strengths to make them the most ideal business partners.

High performance

The four models employ high performance 4HG1BM1 series of inline-4 diesel engine that are all Euro II compliant.

Massive compact and lightweight 3-speed M000 is minimum, each JAC light truck is assured of being economical, powerful and longer lasting.

JAC light trucks feature curved windshields that not only offer a more panoramic view for the driver. Paired to the trucks' streamlined body is this feature said in minimizing wind resistance, thus improving fuel economy.

JAC also employed multi reflective headlights that feature crystal lenses for brighter illumination. Complimenting these are the fog lamps located on collision-absorbing bumpers.

Another interesting feature are the doors that open up to 90 degrees to improve driver and passenger access, even the installed rearview mirrors are made wider as well as more curved to improve rear visibility.

Comfort

Passenger comfort is at the heart of JAC light truck design. Apart from the fact that the cabin's inside room spacious, designed to suppress most of the ringing noise, ergonomics are much improved. Individual tilt seats and steering wheel, power windows) dear, creating a more civilian like interior rather than that of a cargo truck.

Windows are all powered and as an option, a third opening moonroof may be offered for occupants who would love to turn off the air con — especially at night and during long drives — to let the fresh air in.

The control panels, all wrapped in solid metallic anti-corrosion paint, are ergonomically and strategically easy to operate.

Considering these vehicles will be used for long drives, JAC light trucks are equipped with much improved M/F-like suspension.

Indeed, every JAC light truck is backed by decades of research and improvements that its makers have done as they dedicate most resources to Asian market requirements.

As every visible choice, JAC Motors Philippines is confident of its light truck lineup that at present, the sole party now boasts of 10 showrooms as well as 20 service centers located all over Metro Manila, Cavite, Baguio, Iloilo, Cebu, Bacolod, Cebu, Davao, and Cagayan de Oro.

JAC Motors Philippines maintains an office at 1120 Edsa Balintawak in Quezon City as well as a warehouse and testing facility located at ITC Compound, Sun. Lot 5C, Baghuyan in Calamba City.

Mobile app brings Volvo into your smart phone

FROM NOW on, there is no need to leave your Volvo behind when you park it. Literally.

The latest connectivity news from Volvo Car Corporation is a mobile application that makes sure that the driver can stay in touch with the parked car via an iPhone or Android smart phone.

This means that Volvo Cars incorporates the most comprehensive and broadly available application in its type when it comes to controlling and monitoring the car from anywhere at any time.

"The design team set out to put people's needs and lifestyles. Creating an intuitive and ergonomically optimized driver's environment is part of our aim to offer a feeling of relaxed control. It is only logical that you should feel in command of your vehicle also after you have parked it," says Stefan Jacoby, president and CEO at Volvo Car Corporation.

The mobile application is another major Volvo Cars' quest to provide Volvo owners with a superior range of connectivity possibilities - both in the car and when it's parked. The mobile application is an extension of "Volvo On Call, which originally focused on safety and security in a full context in the event of an accident or other emergency. Presently, Volvo On Call is available in 12 European countries plus Russia.

Most the system has been developed in close cooperation with drivers in most European and Asian market requirements.

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JAC Motors Philippines maintains an office at 1120 Edsa Balintawak in Quezon City as well as a warehouse and testing facility located at ITC Compound, Sun. Lot 5C, Baghuyan in Calamba City.

Wide range of features

The mobile application includes a number of features.

• Car location. The location of the car is shown on a map. There is also a digital compass that points the driver in the right direction. If unsure, the car horn and indicators can be activated to facilitate the search.

• Remote door lock. The status of all doors and windows is displayed, and the driver can lock and unlock the car with a push on the touch screen.

• Remote heater start. If the car is equipped with a parking heater, it can be started at either pre-programmed via the mobile app.

• Vehicle dashboard. This feature gives the driver access to a wide range of information: fuel level, remaining range to empty tank, service due fuel consumption, average speed, odometer reading and trip meter reading.

• Car check. The mobile app performs a "health" check of the car, displaying information about bulbs, brake fluid level, coolant level, engine oil level and engine oil pressure.

• Driving journal. Detailed data on each trip during the last 40 days can be downloaded and stored. There is also a possibility to export the data in standard file - spreadsheet formats for company car owners.

• Vehicle information. Basic car data such as model, registration number and VIN number are stored and can be displayed.

• Theft notification. If the car alarm is triggered, the driver is alerted via the mobile app.

• The new Volvo On Call present too will include all the safety and security aspects that are part of the first generation.

More projects in the pipeline

Volvo Cars will introduce several new connectivity features in the near future.

"The new mobile application transforms Volvo On Call from an emergency system to a useful convenience feature. It will help to boost sales of the system - and we are confident that our customers also in this connectivity field will help us attract more and more new customers to the future," says Jacoby.

Please visit http://www.facebook.com/volvophilippines for details.

CHEVRON FUELS PASTULAN FESTIVAL

A dance troupe performs during the recent Pastulan Festival in San Pascual, Batangas where Chevron Philippines Inc. (CPI), in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Caltex brand, gave away P150,000 in Star Cash cash prizes in street dances that best showcased the Caltex brand's "Respectfully Helpful" values which include fair play, teamwork and respect in celebration of culture and community spirit. Caltex also gave away the Supa Kirihan kits to families that gas up at the Caltex service station in San Pascual during the fiesta season. The kits contain printed games to keep kids busy and some toiletries to help the travelling family stay cool on the road. The Pastulan Festival, one of Batangas' top festivals, is held in honor of the town's patron saint, San Pascual Baylon.

Sizzling: Dodge's new Big 3

SIZZLING #3-1

20-inch wheels, shod with 245/45 arrow tires. The aluminum suspension was designed with separate camber for better cornering grip and reportedly features improved feel and brakes that resist fade. Challenger uses this link-rear suspension that provides better isolation from road shocks and a quieter cabin, while providing resistance to body roll.

Inside, the Challenger is all business, with a thick, three-spoke steering wheel, and leather seats. There are a lot of concessions to comfort and convenience, such as the 12-context system, powered driver's seat, Boston Acoustic audio with six speakers, and split-folding rear seats.

For those who crave power, the R/T model will not be enough. Its 5.7L V-8 also offering the SRT8 version, for a mere P400,000 more, at P1,950,000. The SRT8 uses the displacement to 6.1 liters. Power goes up to 425 hp and torque to 569 Nm. To feed it all down from very high speeds, a Brembo brake package is available.

The Challenger is no intriguing alternative to the other two pony cars, the Chevrolet Camaro and Ford Mustang. The Challenger HEMI R/T retails for P1,450,000.

Interestingly, that is also the retail price for the four-door Dodge Charger HEMI R/T. If the Challenger had its SRT8 version counterpart, the Charger had considerably more screen exposure in the still-chasing Fast Five. As with the Challenger, the Charger is equipped with a 5.7-liter HEMI V8, good for 360 hp and 526 Nm.

The Charger is a unique take on the family vehicle, equal parts muscle car and commuter shuttle. The performance advantage of a huge V8 combined with 20-inch wheels will satisfy the sports car cravings of any mom or dad, while the four-door body style and large interior suits its duties as a family vehicle. Although CAN cannot guarantee that a pair of Chargers can pull off a bank-vault caper (like what we saw in the exciting windup of the Fast Five movie), it seems to be plenty of family car for the money.

THE Durango's 3.6-liter V6 engine is reportedly the most powerful in its class.

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Freshman college survival guide–*from the seniors*

'You know the feeling of being in a cage for a long, long time, then being set free? College is like that'

By Angelica Esmeralda
Student contributor, UST

COLLEGE may seem like steps away from the real world, but it's also miles away from what high school was like.

In college, the stakes are higher and the challenges tougher.

Simply put, you're bound to leave us mind on your own two feet, every step of the way.

For the rest of us, the college hungry-idea and endless adventures are almost over. The mistakes we have made, the advice we've been given and the lessons we have learned along our journeys may serve as "survival guidelines" to freshmen.

Here are some wise words from the seniors to the freshmen—from the typical "surviving your class" tips to the timeless "making it through college" pieces of advice.

"I think that the freshmen should set their priorities, write their schedule, choose friends who will influence them to study more and always learn from their mistakes, because that's what will make them stronger for the next four to five years and in their chosen careers." —Rhaizle Haza, 18, Mapua College

"To all the freshmen, say goodbye to your happy-go-lucky days. You'll have a taste of what real life is all about and it won't end there because there's still work to do, quite a long way to go but worth to give the best shot. Start your year right. Don't cheat. What you learn today is what you're going to bring to your dream career. Have fun in college!" —Anna Melissa Sumaria, 19, PLM

"Expect the unexpected. High school life is no different from college. When you're in college, you need to adjust to so many things. Just don't forget to enjoy what you're doing." —Anne Alissa D. Gagnitia, 18, Far Eastern University-NRMF

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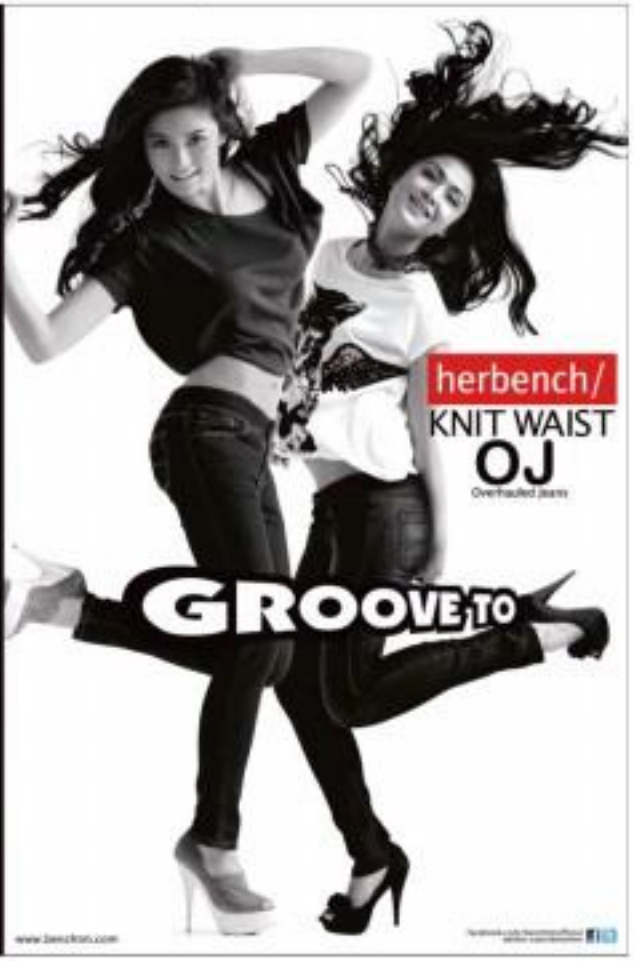
BENCH TWISTED OVERHAULED JEANS

It's back to cool, as Bench welcomes the school season with casual styles that keep you ahead of the pack. Tank tops, cardigans, and lightweight knits are easy to mix and match as well, for times when you need to step into an air-conditioned lecture hall. Just vary the layers to suit your current location of education—a clever mnemonic that's just as top of mind as the young stars wearing Bench's scholastic collection.

The Twisted OJ low -rise jeans has a modern twist wherein the line is found on the front and not on the side. This concept gives them the freedom to move and the flexibility to do anything they want.



www.benchtm.com

Tote bag

While you may not be Gladyss in Manhattan's Upper East side, add a little Glee factor to your everyday school wardrobe by carrying this Chanel-esque tote on school days! BACK TO SCHOOL STALLS. Grey top with lace detail, P450, and tweed bib, P990, all-designing navy trousers, P195, and striped blazer, P995, What a Girl Wants.

Skirt

Inspired by schoolgirl uniforms, the skirt is an essential. To avoid looking like you're taken a cue from Britney Spears circa 1998, wear the waistcut and bring the hemline a little lower. Pair an oversized blouse with the skirt, and look sharp by cinching the waist with a thin leather belt! BACK TO SCHOOL STALLS. Two-layered skirt, P1695, and tweed knit polo, P699, What A Girl Wants; beige stacking shoes, P890, SOHO A.

Tailored shorts

While some may be lucky enough to land in one of those classes in air-conditioned classrooms, others may not be so lucky. Beat the campus heat by wearing shorts! Stay away from extremely short shorts instead - saved styles which are longer and more tailored to make them more appropriate for classes. BACK TO SCHOOL STALLS. Tailored shorts, P695, graphic tee, P495, braided belt, P290, and striped tote, P795, all from kembrigano; thong/slipslash polo, P699, What a Girl Wants; two-toned oxfords, P999, SOHO A.

Style on less than P1,000

Look great while cruising the halls. Work around these four essentials

By Rosanna Aranas
Cover Shoot

IF YOU'RE one of those who no longer earn a scholarship, it's time to do a little back-to-school shopping. Look chic around town and sign campus without having to break into the bank.

Here are four different looks with pieces less than P1,000!

Dress

Regaining/gaining classes that are first thing in the morning? The quickest way to get ready for school and still make it on time for class is by throwing on a dress. Layer on a vest and pair it with statement accessories to look polished! MADE TO SCHOOL STALLS. Sailor-inspired dress, P695, and linen romper-vest, on sound, P1495, What a Girl Wants; retro-inspired flats, P999, SOHO A; retro-inspired bag, P990, Kembrigano; retro-inspired watch, P990, Accessorize; retro-inspired bracelet, P595, Looking for Love.

SHOP DIRECTORY
What A Girl Wants, Shirt, and Hope Center, Ayala Center Cebu; Sound, Mind Promenade, Lucasan Capitol Building, Cebu City; 2nd floor, Mind Mall, SM City Cebu; Harbour, the Gallery, Robinsons Galleria, and Kembrigano, the Gallery, Robinsons Galleria; Accessorize, Women's Gallery, Robinsons Galleria; Accessorize, Ayala Center Cebu; Looking for Love, Ayala Center Cebu; Kembrigano, Ayala Center Cebu; Accessorize

ANNE Jillian Dingcong

RUTH Claire Pua

MARINELLE Tejano

KHAZIE Reis

Freshman college survival ...

ZARKO Garcia

ANNA Melissa Romero

ROBERT Mendiola

"Take immediate due when you enter college, this will be the start of carving your future, where you choose the course that could propel yourself to greater heights. Well for me, college is the start of shifting your focus from the fun of high school days to serious business in the field that you want to pursue. The important thing is choose the right course so that you enjoy what your challenges will come your way and always respect or non-intimacy dead ends, that what is important in finding the right path that will lead to your satisfaction in the future." —Abarientelle B. Trajano, 19, Miriam College.

"College is very different. You are not spoonfed by professors; some information is given and the rest is up to you. My advice: Do advanced reading, go to the library more frequently, and always bring yellow pad and ball pen just in case you need to write something down the things you have read. Study hard and pray harder." —Earlin S. Garcia, 19, San Beda Manila

"There are three important things I've learned: First, choose your friends wisely. They could either help you or drag you down. Second, join school-recognized organizations. School's not just about academics. Besides, it'll help your curriculum vitae. Lastly, prioritize. There are a lot of distractions in college. You know the feeling of being in a stage for a long, long time, then being set free? College is like that.

"You really should know your priorities. If school's not on top 10 or at least one of them[,] forget clouds nurse before enrolling. To all incoming college freshmen: Aim High!"—Bobby O. Mendiola, 23, Far Eastern University

"College life is exciting! This is the time you will experience the word 'freedom.' You have to resist the temptations because college life requires a lot of focus. And after four years of hard work, you'll wear the black toga with pride.—Ruth Claire Pua, 19, San Beda Manila

Sneakers in the city

Looking for new kicks for school? This pair might do the trick.

By Paul Albert Pagbilao
Contributor

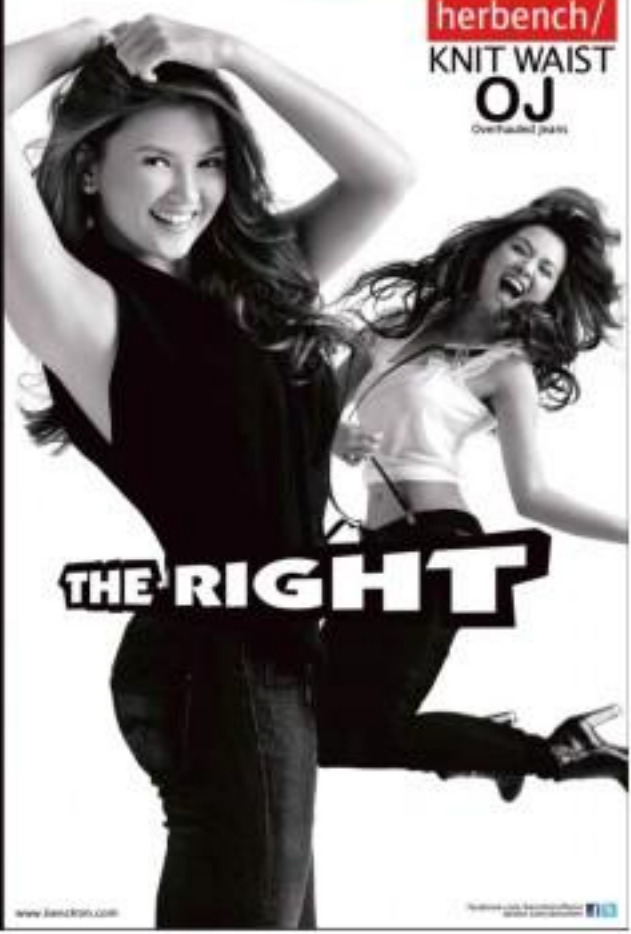
FORTY-TWO years ago, Neil Armstrong described his protest of fear as "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind" and eventually stamped it to our psyche. Little did he know that a then small American shoe brand called Vans predated him by three years as the first to take that giant step and leap for mankind in the dynamic world of footwear.

Established in March 1966, Vans started out as Van Doren Rubber Company that manufactured and sold unique-looking deck shoes that took the world market by storm. The rest is history. Vans would then evolve into the original action sports footwear company it is known today. Yet, Vans has taught and encouraged us to skate, surf, glide through snow, promote BMX and now, take control the very authentic and individual sense of style we embody.

With the greatest sense of innovation, Vans presents its OTW collection featuring five realistic designs, Bedford, Larkin, Pritchard and Wiseman. True to a very American heritage of relaxed style, Vans brings way back to skating with streamlined looks blending modern design and timeless craftsmanship. With the 'shoe heritage up and alive in this collection, our well-loved adventurous feet are ever again up for good cruising. Share your way to style. Style your way to skating. Either way, you should see yourself going places.

The Vans OTW collection is available at Vans Glorietta 2 and Greenbelt 3, Ayala Center, Makati

Playing for the team, there are of course the long-time male endorsers, including Jake Cuenca, Aljur Abrenica, Gerald Anderson, Coco Martin, Christian Bautista, John Prats, Iza Ki, Enchong Dee, Carl Guevara, F-Jay Falcon, and Rayver Cruz. These probably represent the stable of boys in your own school: the jock, the artsy type, the nerd, the mysterious transfer. In this case, though, all are heartthrobs. Clad in screen-printed tees and the staple OJ denim jeans, each one imbibes a fresh and active appeal.



Street cred

What duds are they sporting? Check it out

Photos and text by Ramon Cupin

SPOTTED

Batas Esguerra, 29, ADMU
"Wardrobe: black basic shoes! I have more than three cabinets filled with them!"

Walter Li
"My clothes are from Zara. But I still go with my mood when I'm dressing up."

Dan Fadri, 30, ADMU
"I'd rate Topshop if given the chance!" Shirt, T&H; jacket and necklace, Greenhills; shoes, Taiwan; ring (not a basic) bracelet, Beanstalk Cebu

Camille Magsaysay
Shirt, Zara; top, H&M; shoes, Forever 21; necklace from Hong Kong

Jill Roman, 21, ADMU
"I consult Lookbook and Chictopia, to name a few, for my outfit inspirations." Top and pants, Topshop; bag, Mary Jacobs; scarf, H&M; shoes from Bangkok; bracelet, Tory Burch

Andrell Fay Bancoro, 18, OLS
CSB "I take note of what's on TV and fashion shows for my inspirations." Shirt & cardigan, H&M; pants, Topman; belt, Mench; shoes, Terra

Angelique Caroline Lim, 19, ADMU
"I dress up depending on the occasion for the day. My jacket is from Bangkok, and from Manila: shorts by Rustic Cue Fajas, bag from Cynthia."

Hannah Lynn Tee, 20, ADMU
"My style is a mix of color-poly-eclectic."

Only 28, this Jollibee Yumbassador is a world-class artist

From Berlin to Kuala Lumpur and Taiwan, Nasser Lubay is making waves

By Paul Albert Palmero
Contributor

"Nasser" is iconic for viewers. Mysterious indeed is 28-year-old Nasser Lubay, who, aside from hosting news updates abroad, from Berlin to Kuala Lumpur and Taiwan, is now among the nine Jollibee Yumbassadors.

Nasser didn't receive formal Fine Arts training or mentoring of any sort. He took up Mechanical Engineering at Mapua Institute of Technology, but he heeded his imagination and creativity.

Live media, he said, is his major interest. Traditional painting methods, with other modern techniques like digital graphics and video manipulation, characterize much of Lubay's output.

It was two years ago when Nasser got his big break. One of his many watercolor masterpieces, "Rebirth", bagged second honors in the prestigious Celcom Prize in Berlin, Germany.

The Celcom Prize is a contemporary arts prize that has gained immense stature and stardom. Prizes yearly include shows, art courses and residencies abroad, as well as promotions, catalogues and talks and tours with curators, on top of cash prizes.

Lubay did not stop with paintings, but also ventured into design. That same year, in Malaysia, his "Save the Green" entry was shortlisted in the UBIO+7 Design of the 2010 World Recycling Design Exhibition during Kuala Lumpur Design Week.

Childhood has been a crucial foundation in Lubay's art. He receives tremendous support from his parents. "But enjoy the moment and continue with your art," they told him to encourage him.

"Travel inspires art," said Lubay. While his fruitful stints in Germany, Malaysia and Taiwan have been memorable, the young artist hopes to travel even more to his dream places: Japan (a huge source of inspiration, given its "weird art forms"), Europe (for its countless art enclaves), Brooklyn, New York (a breeding ground for artists) and Hollywood (for its cinematic appeal).

What's his dream for when he turns 30? "By then, I should have mounted my first

"REBIRTH"

NASSER wears Bruce Lee t-shirt, Zara jacket, Forever 21

own grand solo exhibit...and of course, made my first million through my work."

Taking his art globally by remaining grounded locally is Lubay's goal. "Despite international success, I want the world to see I am still based in my country."

What, then, could be the role of art in today's changing times? "I think art is what makes a nation beautiful, luminous and progressive," said Lubay. He posted that remark on his Facebook page, for all the world to see.

YOUR PIZZA'S JUST A CLICK AWAY

Thank the geek gods for online shopping. Enjoy your favorite Shakey's pizza is now literally at your fingertips. With just a click of the mouse, you can order anything from the extensive menu that the leading family restaurant has to offer.

When you're stuck at work or want to dine at the comforts of your home, online ordering is the most convenient option to satisfy your cravings for good, old-fashioned, brick oven-baked pizza and more!

Online ordering is just the latest innovation that's making up all Shakey's outlets.

Shakey's Online Delivery can be accessed through http://www.shakeyspizza.ph. Through this welcome development, the gaps between hand cows living across the miles are easily bridged.

It provides two main services: Delivery, wherein the ordering/paying and receiving parties are one and the same; and Pizza Padala, which has two components.

Pizza Padala Local is when the ordering/paying party is from anywhere in the Philippines, the receiving party is also from anywhere in the Philippines and could consume or claim the ordered product from the ordering/paying party's preferred Shakey's restaurant.

Pizza Padala International is when the ordering/paying party is from anywhere in the world; the receiving party, meanwhile, is from anywhere in the Philippines and could consume or claim the ordered product from the ordering/paying party's preferred Shakey's restaurant.

OPTION CUT

Shakey's Online Delivery supports the Shakey's culture and brand name, as this service gives guests a higher level of convenience, easier solicitations and greater accessibility to the stores through the internet.

Shakey's has always had a deeper understanding of what its consumers want, as well as a keen insight on the impact of social media that comes into play when consumers are trying to decide how to spend their money on which product or service. That's why this delivery service affords the guests a faster and more efficient shopping experience.

Shakey's Online Delivery and Pizza Padala are the restaurants that offer awesome value for money. Available 24 hours a day, any day of the week, guests who have Internet access at home or at the workplace can visit the Shakey's web site, because it is the only pizza chain that offers complete and innovative delivery and gift-giving services.

Order Now!
www.shakeyspizza.ph

Model dressing

By Vicky Herrera
Contributor

PHILIPPINE Fashion Week let an all-time high last May 6-15, 2011 at the SMX Convention Center, Mall of Asia, Midnight brands and designers showcased their trench for the upcoming Holiday season. 2bU scouted the halls to catch a few models as they headed from rehearsals to the shots, and we found these wonderfully styled from head to toe, with their own personal touch.

Easy style tips from real life mannequins

CLAIRE JAMES
Pair on a loose shorter blue top and pair with leggings and a cropped denim jacket

LUKE JOSLIN
Keep it classy with a white button-down and jeans mix

JUSTINE GAERLAN
Look chic with classy blue jeans and flowy lace top, paired with ultra-feminine jeans

BIANCA MAGPANTAY
Don't forget those "Supermodel" shades

GRENDEL ALVARADO
Balance off the vintage look by pairing a white lace dress with chunky heels. Patriotic look with socks for a Parisian feel

JASMINE MAIDENHOFER
Get that sporty vibe with a short striped dress and sneaks

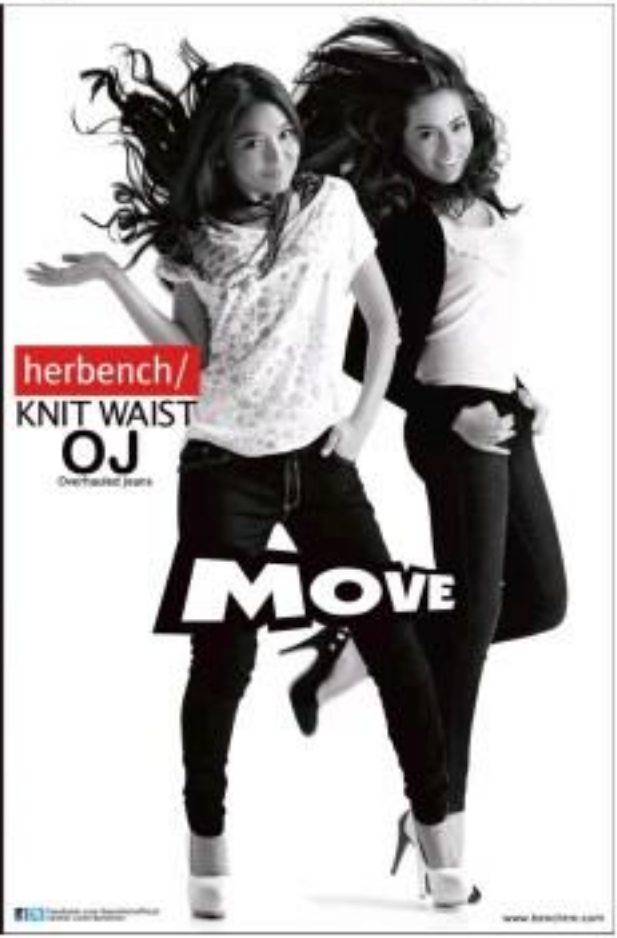
JESSICA YANG
Rompers are still cool for the summer heat. Pair down with white thigh boots

LUISA BELTRAN
Dress fitting jeans coupled with combat boots — the combination always spells "fierce"

CHRISTIAN DELA CRUZ
Be more casual, plaid flannel shirt is a must-have for look preppy

Of course, in any institution, apart from the seniors, there are the just-as-cute frosh. Rounding out the class are young talents such as Rocco Nacino, Steven Silva of Starstruck, Johan Santos, Paul Jake Castillo, and Tiko Jamalon of Pinoy Big Brother: Double Up, and John Manalo, Alfie Castino – all looking their best in Bench's layered knits and cotton pieces.

All clad in fun, stylish duds from Bench, they make a pretty good looking class, the better to motivate you to go to school with. Now good luck. Focusing on your curricular activities...



STYLE ACADEMY

Start a fabulous school year...

...wearing shoes and toting bags that are the latest campus crazes! Edgy wedges, colorful flats, chic sling bags and pretty shoulder bags are the subjects of school-wide trend discussions.

Make the grade with the gorgeous multiple choices showcased at the ladies' section of SM Department Stores. Find varsity-perfect shoes and bags in classic blacks, earthy tans, impressive beiges and funky crayola colors.

Make a great entrance when classes begin, with smartly-designed bags and shoes from SM.

(Shoes by Parisian, Bags by Steve and Dave)

BLACK to basic

COLOR theory

lace-me-up WEDGES

campus SLING

CREAM society

2b LIFESTYLE

I didn't go to UP, Ateneo or La Salle–so what?

What's important is how much you learn–and how you apply it in the real world

By Miss Mark H. Sabio
Love Basco

WHENEVER I meet people, there is one question I dread they'll ask. Where did you go to school?

"Ateneo?"

"La Salle?"

"Ohhh, UP?" don't try for the last time, after getting only silence and a polite smile from me.

By this third attempt, I have a ready answer: "I don't mind to answer that!" And then I add that where I went to study doesn't matter much. Next topic, please.

Well, of course, what school you went to is supposed to say a lot about you. How financially capable you and your family are, the field you intend to pursue, the values you and your parents have.

But where you go to school does not...should not...define you as a person. I'm sure most people don't really consider one's alma mater as the basis for a relationship, but not sure.

I guess asking about one's school is just as an ice breaker. After all, discovering that you went to the same university because you both were studies you have common friends (or enemies), or that you hung out in the same concrete but never really met each other.

I've been part of such conversation several times, except that instead of being one of the excited parties strolling off the campus of college cronies, I'd be in the middle, awkwardly silent, symbolic sitting, praying that someone would move on to another topic.

When I was still a student, I didn't really know how to handle the dreaded question. There were times I'd say "secret," no matter how bitchy and IG that was, or joke that I was leaving for Harvard soon. There were times I just let them keep on guessing until they gave up. Other times, no. I lied.

Immature self

I have to admit I wasn't exactly proud of my school. I wasn't ashamed of it, either, but as a immature and insecure teenager (still didn't know how to deal with people from more prestigious schools imposing about my background, I feared they would look down on me if they found out I wasn't from a freedom.

Now that I'm in the workforce I still get the dreaded question. And while I'm finally at peace with myself and my schools, I still prefer not to answer the question. Where I studied isn't the only thing that defines me. I'd rather talk about other stuff. Judy Love, dessert, anyone?

I do know my worth. I know I am not any less of a person just because I didn't graduate from an elite university. In fact, I think I'm better than a lot of people I know who came from UE, Ateneo or La Salle because,

SHOW 'N SEE

Printed and distributed by Philippine Daily Inquirer

Overseas Filipinos Come to More Memorable Exp *with Ayala Malls'* VIPinoy Pro

Lounges areas provide comfortable areas to relax and bond with family.

The VIPinoy lounges is also open and able to assist you on your pagsusi, parks and sights tags.

VIPinoy Lounges Open *Across Ayala Malls*

Families of overseas Filipinos enjoying their VIPinoy perks from Ayala Land's Ramona Tuvshin and Bing Jose, Avida's Pop Ltd Christine Bautista, and next to Ayala Land Vice President Marivic Egana

Lili Ayala Land VP Ramona Tuvshin, Ayala Land Chairman Fernando Zobel de Ayala, Makati City Mayor Jejomar Binay, Ayala Land President Antonio Jose Ayala, Ayala Land VP Cora Dizon, Ayala Land EVP Bobby Dy and Ayala Land Chairman Jaime

Queen of Market! Market! enjoyed a short hula-ing and dance Filipino dances.

Lili Mar Quee Demand Manager Mark Belen, Mrs. Malang Pusatenas and Angeles City Mayor Ed Pusatenas, and Ayala Land Assistant Vice President Jo Hernandez supplied the Mar Quee Mall's VIPinoy lounge's assistance.

Queen City Councilor Amp. Dodie Liberal II accepting the first Welcome VIPinoy card from Ayala Land's Ramona Tuvshin and Bing Jose.

Billy Crawford was entertained while shopping at the Seaside Mar Quee mall

Fans are overwhelming guests during the Seaside Mar Quee

Lili Market! Market! guests at Inner Tagalog Chief of Police Col. Tomas C. Apolinario, Jr. and Barangay Fort Tagalog Administrator Jorge Bautista Jr. Makati Market! General Manager Joseph B Rapsa and Ayala Land Assistant Vice President Myrna Fernandez

Ayala Malls, the premier shopping, dining, and entertainment destination in the Philippines, recognizes the value of addressing the needs of overseas Filipinos. To further expand its existing market base, Ayala Malls launched VIPinoy, a program created especially for balikbayans and overseas Filipinos living, working and living overseas, and for their families in the Philippines, to enjoy unparalleled services and exclusive benefits and privileges at Ayala Malls.

Developed with an overseas Filipino and their family in mind, Ayala Malls partnered with reliable and trusted groups to provide fresh and relevant services and promotions. Among the program's partners are Philippine International Banks, Inc. for consultation and banking assistance; BPI for consultation on banking and investment; Globe for consultation on overseas calling cards and services for international communication; Philippine Franchise Association for consultation on franchising and other business opportunities; the Philippine Travel Agency Association for consultation on travel and tourism; PHILCONDEN, Alfinet, ISSALE, Bella Center for Women, and Small Philippine Businesses Association for consultation on small and medium enterprises and employment opportunities.

The VIPinoy card also offers members access to Ayala Malls' Customer Service Lounges, where they can relax, meet with friends and family, and enjoy free Internet access, newspapers, and magazines. Ayala Malls' VIPinoy lounges are located in Ayala Center Cebu, Ayala Malls Manila Bay, Ayala Malls Market! Market!, Ayala Malls Marquee Mall, Ayala Malls Seaside Mar Quee, Ayala Malls Vertis North, Ayala Malls Trinoma, Ayala Malls Harbor Point, Ayala Malls Legazpi, Ayala Malls Capitol Central, Ayala Malls Circuit, Ayala Malls Solenad, Ayala Malls Feliz, Ayala Malls Manila Bay, Ayala Malls Serin, Ayala Malls Nuvali

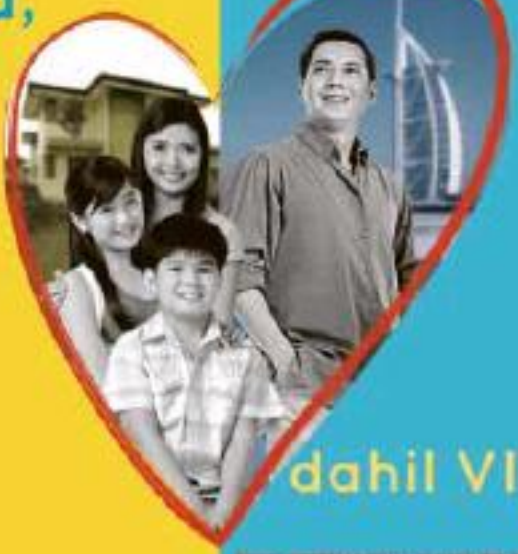
e Home eriences

ogram

Free calls at Internet conferencing booths.

Ayala Land property specialists are on hand to provide property consultation and advice.

VIP sila,



dahil VIP ka!

MARQUEE

Abreeza

Back to school with an '80s groove

By Dominique Pluvio Tiu
Contributor

If like me, you grew up with the Backstreet Boys, you're not used to the era—save for maybe your dad's Wham! cassette tape or your mom's John Hughes DVD collection.

But forward to 2011. Teens wear fluorescent bike shorts underneath badly-hacked, cropped tops, jumpsuits, faded denims, sweat shirts, rainbow nails, and bright lipstick. "Summer fashion" is what the young call them; my dad sees things differently.

On a recent trip to Shanghai with the family, I wore my hip-

If like me, you grew up with the Backstreet Boys, you're not used to the era—save for maybe your dad's Wham! cassette tape

stick in the brightest shade of fushsia, and paired it off with a cool tank top and my fluorescent pink skirt.

At the time, I thought I was cleverly "color-blocking" my outfit using my bubble high-lighter palette, but upon seeing me, my dad blurted out: "So the '80s are back?"

Mullets and stirrups

Unless I see mullets and stirrups, I wouldn't hastily declare that the '80s are here again just yet, but it wouldn't hurt to look back. "Invisible Molly Ringwald movies or the old Filipino classic "Bagets," and take cue from the '80s for the upcoming school season.

1. Harem pants

The '80s screen Rosie Perez, and 2011 is brimming with this "Yo" trend! Drop by any other store and you'll definitely get hold of a glaringly fluorescent piece. For school, fluorescent accessories would spice up a simple outfit—a pop of color to brighten an otherwise drab day. Think: Neckbars, bangles, socks, or neon nail polish.

2. Integrating sportswear

I've always been fascinated with the sportswear trend. Upon looking at my dad's old photos, I was overwhelmed by the amount of sport tights, jackets, and sneakers he wore back in the day. Then I flipped through a few of my Chinese magazines and saw the latest Adidas Neo collection and thought it screamed "'80s." The best thing about integrating sportswear is that it's "school-friendly"; it allows you to move in utmost comfort.

3. Satchels

You used to lug around a bag that fits just about everything, from your books to gadgets. Thankfully, satchels are very "in" this season. Both in the '80s, satchels were used by baby-boomers, with shoulder pads. Granted, satchels have been present since the days of yore (invented in the 17th century), but if you want to channel the fashionable '80s context of Molly Ringwald in "Pretty in Pink") and still maintain functionality, satchels are the way to go!

4. Denim

The '80s proved to be the year of drained denim, which carried over to the '90s, of course. Stef Scorpio will never go out of fashion. Denim and its multiple reincarnations are pretty "fun" and school-friendly. It leverages on comfort and functionality, without losing that casual vibe.

5. Comfortable shoes

It's the good ones, comfortable shoes (aren't mom out of fashion. They also went well with school, flats and sneakers are practical, especially for students who are often on the go. Although wearing comfortable shoes is a given, it should be revisited.

THE BEST ring about integrating sportswear is that it's "school-friendly," allowing you to move in utmost comfort.

ACCESSORIES spruce up any outfit.

Check us out online!

Blog: www.2bU.com.ph

McDonald's Kiddie Crew Gathers Thousands for 2011 Grand Graduations

A record-breaking 23,000 kids from all over the country participated and graduated from McDonald's Kiddie Crew Workshop this year in a series of Grand Graduations held across the Philippines—Metro Manila, Cebu, Davao and Laguna.

In Manila, the World Trade Center in Pasay City was transformed into a magical McDonald's Kingdom filled with a whole lot of exciting freebie with games and cool freebies for the entire family. Against a towering castle for a stage, trampoline as a free-packed program hosted by no other than Ronald McDonald and the Gang, together with Ms. Jackie Lou Blanco. McDonald's newest Kid Ambassador, Jillian Ward also joined in the fun with entertaining song and dance numbers that everyone enjoyed.

From the entire McDonald's family, congratulations to all Kiddie Crew graduates of 2011!

Start the school year right–we want YOU!

You can be a 2bU student correspondent

WE ARE looking for good student writers, reporters, photographers and graphic illustrators or artists who can showcase their talents. Send your resume to Stef Cabal at 3/F, UMPI, Philippine Daily Inquirer Building, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Pasong Tamo and Makaraig Sts., Makati City (metro) or 2-1013 (if phones, assorted tabloid fit and sample works.

In one page (front campus beat, student life or coverage experience. It can be reflective, funny, serious, inspiring, or in-passage. (500 to 800 word count. Those from Nueva Ecija, Zambales, Bataan, Tarlac, Pampanga, Bulacan, Aurora, Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino, Pangasinan, La Union, Baguio City, Benguet, Ifugao, Mountain Province, Kalinga, Apayao, Abra, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Cagayan, Isabela, Batanes, Quezon, Rizal, Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Romblon, Palawan, Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, Masbate, Sorsogon, Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Iloilo, Guimaras, Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental, Bohol, Cebu, Siquijor, Leyte, Southern Leyte, Biliran, Eastern Samar, Northern Samar, Western Samar, Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, Zamboanga Sibugay, Misamis Occidental, Misamis Oriental, Bukidnon, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao, Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Davao del Norte, Davao del Sur, Davao Oriental, Davao Occidental, Compostela Valley, Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur, Dinagat Islands, Sarangani, South Cotabato, Tawi-Tawi, Sulu, Basilan, Palawan, Puerto Princesa, Cuyo, Kalayaan, Cagayan de Oro, Iligan, Marawi, Davao City, General Santos, Zamboanga City, Isabela City, Koronadal, Kidapawan, Tacurong, Cotabato City, Butuan, Surigao City, Tandag, Bislig, Dipolog, Dapitan, Pagadian, Ozamiz, Oroquieta, Tangub, Malaybalay, Valencia, Gingoog

Super LIFESTYLE
Style . Urban living . Pop culture . Entertainment . Recreation

HOT, HOT, HOT

The Fever Luxe Lounge is all about seduction and flavor

By Bianca Consunji

FOR SOME reason, the past year bore witness to the entry of a slew of new resto-bars and clubs in Manila, all of them hoping to usurp the throne once held by stronghold such as the now-defunct Embassy. While only time will tell which ones will win the loyalties of the fickle partying set, there are a couple that set themselves apart from the occasionally indistinguishable clubs.

One of these is Fever Luxe Lounge, which recently opened at the Global Philippine Plaza. Done in black and red interiors (but can only be described as loudest-like (see a noticeably reminded of "Moulin Rouge" with ever beaded curtains and chandelier), the resto-bar is slowly starting to become one of the more popular destinations in the city, competing with giants such as Sapphire, Opus, Solaire de Ning, and XOXO. It's our opinion that Fever attracts the more beautiful people on the above-mentioned places, because behind it are the usual kingpins of the Manila scene: Tim Yap, Stephen Fu, GV Sayoo, and Ed Sedeo guzzi.

While there's always a reason to party (house music, R&B, retro, funk, soul and disco are played on various days of the week), what sets Fever apart from the others is its focus on food. Serious foodies should find their way to Sedeo if only to sample the dishes by Chef Jose Luis Gonzalez, who was affiliated with the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao and El Bulli—only the greatest restaurant in the world. Ingredients steals showcase the chef's skill in both molecular gastronomy and classic comfort cuisine, leading to innovative dishes such as fresh oysters with champagne and lemon-infused ice, squash cream with Corona Negra tortellini, chocolate balls with tomato confit, lamb with pineapple, and foie gras with orange and crispy cacao spaghetti. Even the house-made bread is fit for kings).

"The dishes are done in such a way to make the natural flavors to remain," says Chef Gonzalez. "Many of them are natural complements—like lamb and pineapple—but we also try to surprise guests with dishes that they don't expect. I also like using vegetables in the desserts for an unusual flavor, not too sweet but pleasant tasting/before."

Many guests come for the gastro-fine feast after supper service ends (8:30), but the kitchen still offers various tapas to sustain you (yippee) throughout long nights of dancing. Mondays feature house lounge, Tuesdays have R&B mash-ups by Mike Solarte, Wednesdays are for retro nights with Raul Tj, more house nuts Eby Sycoy on Thursdays and DC Bandejas on Fridays, and mash-up prep on Saturdays. Still, if you're going in Fever for a party anyway, be sure to drop by for dinner—it's something that you won't regret.

Fever Luxe Lounge is located at the Plaza Level of Global Philippine Plaza, CCP Complex, Roxas Blvd. Call 832.6968 or e-mail reserva.fever@feverloungeph.com.

E-mail the author at biancaconsunji@yahoo.com or visit www.eatmoreeatmorblog.com

A weekly directory of the country's best entertainments

Where to Stop Where to Go

A taste of new oriental grandeur at Peony Garden

FOOD LOVERS and gourmet gourmands will delight in Manila Peninsula's signature Millennium Cantonese fine dining restaurant Peony Garden beginning June 1, as delectable and stylish new dishes exclusively created by its executive Chinese chef Lee Yan Feng make its way in the premier restaurant's newly designed menu.

The new dishes designed by Malaysian chef Lee form the centerpiece of Peony Garden's commitment to authentic celebrations and serves quality with the finest flavors and texture. Apart from the gained a la carte selections, the menu now features dishes of chef Lee's monthly Special Recommendations, four grand feasts set menus, a five seafood selection, and eighteen new sumptuous, homemade dim sum choices to choose from.

For a taste of Peony Garden's extra-ordinary and fun a more rewarding dining experience, a 20% discount privilege on a la carte and a 30% discount privilege on set menus are offered daily until Aug. 31. On regular dining occasions outside of the special discount privileges offered, Gourmet Elite Plus loyalty card members get a 10% Privy Lunches dining discount subject to the Gourmet Elite Programme's terms and conditions.

Peony Garden is located in the third level of the Manila Pavilion Hotel and is open for lunch daily from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; dinner is served from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. For inquiries and reservations, call 526-3222 extension 2890 or visit www.mandarinoriental.com.ph.

Father's Day at InterContinental Manila

SPEND All-inclusive Sun Mini Afternoon or Breakfast at the InterContinental Manila to celebrate Father's Day, June 19, for free. Simply purchase of Café Ambassador's Grand Sunday Buffet for Dad (day or earlier) at the hotel's "Sunday Day with Dad" promo package for local residents for the period of June 17 to 20. Dads receive for adults and Bubble Makes for kids from Rob van Bloo (the entertainers and creators of Dive Central) and Crocodile Dan. Kiddy Dive room itself, relay games and activities, inside golf, a Fun Ranch kiddie playground, 15-minute body/head massage by Hydro courtesy of Sonya Spa, snacks for kids plus cards of gymnastics classes support time for everyone. Café Ambassador's brunch buffet celebrates the special day with Dad, with all-you-can-eat at the Grand Ballroom Photo Booth, use of game machines and kiddie palace a child safe and crafts activities. Priced at just P1,288 ++, the "Sunday Day with Dad" promo package consists of one overnight stay in a deluxe room with buffet breakfast for two at Café Ambassador and 30% discount for lunch and dinner at the same restaurant during one's stay, in view of the hotel lobby for the promote with this, pre-expiration within the weekend. Call InterContinental Manila at (632) 7000 for bookings and inquiries.

Ultimate Father's Day offers at Cravings

CRAVINGS RESTAURANT pulls out all the stops this June as it presents a delectable Dad's Day that treat to show our appreciation to the special men in our lives in celebration of Father's Day.

On June 19, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., customers can avail of The Ultimate Buffet which offers some of Cravings's bestsellers for the men of the house on his special day. For only P990, enjoy unlimited servings of savory soup and salad, sample perfectly prepared roast turkey at the carving station, and indulge in a scrumptious lunch buffet consisting of flavorful dishes like pork tenderloin tips skillet, beef in peanut sauce, steamed pandan rice and pasta station. Finally, cap off this delightful feast with dessert for options of homemade jello, chocolate fondue pudding and more.

Discounts commemorating Father's Day are not to be outdone by Cravings has also prepared two decadent desserts to tempt the taste buds of even the most discriminating of dads. From June 11 to 30, enjoy the Father's special treat, which consists of a dark light chocolate chiffon cake layered with Father's Favorite mousse. On the other hand, the Belgian Dark chocolate cake is a rich chocolate cheesecake with chunks of dark to your mouth Mallows.

Cravings Restaurants can be found along Kalayaan Avenue, at the Shangri-La Plaza Mall, the Forum Place in Makati City, along Timog Avenue, at the Fairview Super Mall Alabang and Eastwood Mall in Libis.

Solitel Philippine Plaza's treat for daddy

CENTER, PHILIPPINE Plaza offers a hotel-indulgent Father's Day accommodation package, entitled "1,000 Reasons to Stay at Solitel" which creates a complimentary P1,000 food and beverage or Spa credit 1-day/1 dads who check-in from June 17 to 19 get a chance to win exquisite coffee by Josephine. The package offers luxurious room accommodation, indulgent lunch or dinner, complimentary bottled water, and P1,000 that is credit to be used on a selection of hotel services. Overnight accommodation starts from P6,125++ for a superior room which includes a daily P1,000 credit that may be applied to the following: Solitel restaurant and Bar, Spice, Latte, Simply Sports Bar, Fiesta Cove Lounge, SoCial, Treasure Island and Lalique. Enjoy Father's Day dinner at Spice with an extra two hours of beer from June 11 to 19. Rate is set at P2,288+++, while kids are from 4 to 6 at P2,388++. For more information, call (02) 5555-5555 ext. 1301 to 1994 or e-mail at room reservations@solitelmanila.com. For food and beverage bookings and inquiries, call (02) 4088 and 551-5555 ext. 4888, or e-mail at fnbreservations@solitelmanila.com.

Seven Suites pampers dad on his special day

SEVEN SUITES Hotel Binondo, a getaway boutique hotel, is offering a Father's Day promo for the entire month of June giving away free to give away a free overnight stay for each day of their office. Under this promo, families can avail of an overnight package which includes an overnight stay in a suite room good for two adults and two children under the age of 12. This package also comes with a honeymoon family breakfast, massage for two at the spa room, and an exciting adventure session at the hotel's observatory. Aside from's room, a make-take family dinner awaits at the hotel's Bistro Restaurant where guests will be treated to juicy, well-seasoned T-bone steak while the kids can enjoy their specially prepared mini barbecue plus delicious choices for dessert. Finally, to cap off an exciting fun-filled afternoon and evening, the hotel will also provide free dinner service and steaming basin of hot chocolate before bedtime. All these are included in the special promo price of P7,500 net. Seven Suites Hotel Binondo is located at Wallaceed with Quadrocentro. Surrounding nearby Ambuklao City, and is just 30 minutes away from Cubao or Ortigas. For inquiries, call (02) 7000-0000, 2717-9400 or visit www.sevensuites.net.

Yuraway Filipino delicacies at the Pastry Corner

TWO JUNE, celebrate the sweet glory of Philippine Independence Day at The Bellevue Hotel and by your culture at you can visit the country's indigenous cuisine delicacies at the Pastry Corner. Relish the exquisite taste and flavors of the distinctly unique specialties from various regions such as Cordilleras, Bicol, Ilocos, Visayas, Mindanao, and Pampanga. Also, you can buy delicacies

June celebrations at One Tagaytay Place Hotel

THE "Super Dad" Package at Hotel Solea celebrates the heroes past and upcoming Fred and other national heroes, the room gave always shoulders salutes and heroines are invited. Father Festivities are held every weekend of June to honor the fathers of both family and nation. Starting the 4th and every Saturday of June Bonifacio, executive chef Ron Manalo will cook a dessert that tell of the Visayan specialties from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Experience Pinoy hospitality made prepared a delectable with a memorable feast. Celebrate Independence Day, so we're your life at Solea Restaurant's Library Bar buffet dinner on Saturday June 11, and a Lively Day buffet lunch on June 12, Sunday, at P600 per person per buffet. Add at 10% +8% in celebration of Fathers' Day on June 19, treats of families attending to see the June meeting at OTP's "Anyday," promotion, one free lunch or dinner. And what better way to pamper that special man's heart than to treat him to a Dad's Buffet at P888 per person dinner on June 19 to lunch on June 19. Every dining buffet gets to spin the "wheel of chance" a roulette game that promises her prizes with a grand prize of an overnight accommodation at the historic Plaza to Taliga, featuring Dining Inhale to the Fathers of the Filipino nation. "Heroes" inspired stories of artwork be displayed at The Green Gallery of One Tagaytay Place+Hotel Suites with ceremony to be announced by Tagaytay City officials on June 18. For reservations and more information, call (046) 413-0888, 0917-8888777, 0920-8888777 or e-mail sales@hotelsolea.com, www.oneonehotelsandspa.com.

Rich and robust flavors for dad

ON SUNDAYS, Oct. Corenne Plaza Manila Golfers provides the opportunity to reunite parents, friend gratitude to the men of the house. It's about time we say thank you for his hard work by expressing love and respect for his pivotal role in our lives. To celebrate this special occasion Service Centrel and Ala Time St. restaurants prepared specialty dishes that are internationally-acclaimed with the flavors of wine.

For chef Angelo Pavon, executive chef of Corenne Plaza and Robbies has an extremely important occasion such as this should be celebrated here with wines, but this does as a main ingredient rather than the usual accompaniment to a meal. For Father's Day, Seven Gourmet Corenne Plaza's international buffet restaurant boasts of special menus from the discoveries dishes ample of wine as an ingredient. Specialty dishes such as El Prince Rib Steak, American-Style Pork Ribs and Caribbean Glazed Chicken embodies these cooking techniques of using wine either in their marinade or sauces. Aside from these special treats for dad and the family, guests may also enjoy an extensive array of cuisine featured in some of the interactive cooking stations.

Ala Time St., Corenne Plaza's renowned Chinese Restaurant, boasts a variety of Asian cuisine ranging from Cantonese, Singaporean, Chinese and even American. Specifically for Father's Day, executive Chinese chef Sam Lee adds another dimension to his renowned Asian specialties. In honor of fatherhood, wines and spirits will be focused these components for his special father's day set menu. The dishes are cooked from different touch of wine and whiskey adding an extraordinary and sophisticated touch to his classic recipes. He menu includes Braised Asparagus with Crab Roe Sauce, Drunken Stone Duck and Gingerwine Combination. Platter which comprises of Drunken Chicken, Cold Prawn Salad, Singapore Spring Roll, Spa Hong and Pork Roll with Crab Mushroom.

For a more upbeat celebration, party the night away with live band performances at Bar One. Revel in the variety of international and local beers and one of a kind cocktail mixes while massaging an executive chef Angelo Pavon's Chefs Recommendations.

Let this Father's Day be your way to spread the message of love and appreciation for their hard work and dedication only at Corenne Plaza Manila Galleria.

For inquiries and reservations, please call 633-7722 or e-mail at fbd.corenne@corenne@ihg.com.

Eenie 'Mini' Miney Mo! Who's the lucky dad that is ready to go?

RAISING THE bar to honor the only man that truly reserve on the special day is surely what every family has in store. Glam-overlooking chefs dresses Manila promise to deliver for the family. Marriott Manila gives all deserving dads a chance to spend a memorable weekend rule-of-the-clock and to ride Mini Coopers.

Dine at Marriott Café, Cru Steakhouse, or at The Lounge on Father's Day, June 12, as these lucky dads get the chance to take home the mini cooper and drive it anywhere for 5 days.

Mom and kids will share the same fun at Marriott Café's Father's Buffet and bounty brunch seafood buffet for only P2,000 net per head.

Lovers were meant for a special menu and dad treasures at The Lounge. Featuring cuisines of Asian as platter to fire up the feast. Priced affordable at P800++, these mini coopers inspired menu promises to satisfy in this hot hog in flavor thrill.

Mira Cooper owners make as Marriott Manila offers special room packages exclusively to all DOSRI-clients. Cooper owners in the country at 1382+77++, Service inhale of time at the deluxe room with P1,999 P&B or Quiet Spa on the plus a bouffet of international breakfast buffet for two.

And if dad is in for original eating, take him at Cru Steakhouse. The specially-hand cut, hand-seasoned, and flame-fed grilled beef and more at Cru, a manly

A day for dad at Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila

DADS DO not always ask for much. So on Father's Day, June 19, make dad feel extra special by treating him to mouthwatering delights and one-of-a-kind memories at Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila's Dads dining. At Market Cafe and Li Li will receive a special menu in celebration of this special day.

Market Cafe prepares a hearty spread of international specialties all for just P1,800 net per person, inclusive of free flowing soft drinks and local beer.

At Li Li, guests can look forward to scrumptious Asian creations in a special Father's Day Yum Cha for only P1,000 net per person, also part of the Father's Day Yum Cha is a free flowing drink station. The cafe is inclusive of free-flowing local beer, soft drinks and local beer.

For fathers who enjoy fine dining, a delicious eight-course menu featuring exemplary Cantonese cuisine is the ideal celebration. For only P1,888 net per person, chef de cuisine Andy Chua delights all dads with his signature creations of shredded roast duck and foie gras on Chinese bun with strawberries, pan-seared prawn and garlic in a special sauce, steamed lime coddcod and diced beef tenderloin in XO sauce, to name a few. Not to be missed is the chilled mango pudding and white chocolate mousse for dessert.

Guests planning on giving dad something out of the ordinary are invited to visit the Pastry Boutique.

Surprise dad with a sweet version of his favorite snack with a limited edition Hot Dog Cake. That fun confection is made from the Hyatt Swiss Delifrais chocolate mousse, vanilla sponge cake and marzipan. Created by pastry chef Arbiun Siregar, the Hot Dog Cake will be available from June 17 to 19 (+800 net) only.

For enquiries and reservations, please call 240-1234.

Back to School with Surplus

PREP PROJECT: Bright sweater worn over walker collared button down shirt and khaki pants.

PREP REPORT: Orange striped top worn with jeggings.

Preparing for Back to School is always fun at Surplus, the one-stop shop for fashionable back-to-school outfits!

Students will find lots of room for self-expression with the Back to School collection from Surplus. The Preppy, Geek, and Diva lines for girls, and Trendy, Preppy, and Edgy outfits for guys. There are also class, socks, belts and sneakers to complete your look.

And of course, there is the timeless Preppy look that is all about tasteful classic dressing: polo shirts, oxfords, khakis, plaids, and argyles. Update this clean, crisp New England look with layering and spicy accessories.

You'll also find fun and functional accessories to complement your look at Surplus: foldable backpacks, tote bags, lunch bags and BPA free reusable water bottles.

What's more, SDO cardholders who use their credit cards from May 1-June 30, 2011 can redeem free gift vouchers when they reach the minimum spending requirement from participating Surplus branches. A P2,000 single transaction entitles one to a P500 gift voucher, P4,000 transaction to a P 300 gift voucher, and a P10,000 purchase to a P500 gift voucher. The more you spend, the more shopping money you get back!

The Back to School collection is available at Surplus stores located at most SM Supermalls including the newly renovated store in SM Southmall with its new location at the Basement Level of the West Wing. Also visit our newly renovated store at the Ground Level of SM City Pampanga Annex 1 and our newly opened store at the Upper Ground Floor of SM City Marilao. So plan a visit to Facebook - simply search and visit Surplus Shop at Facebook.

An all-white sweater over a collared dress for that classic preppy look.

trendy

Your great demeanor will definitely be noticed with this good school boy look!

preppy

Get an A+ look with this perfectly coordinated vest and shorts combination with basic collared shirt.

Gray V-neck sweater worn over white collared top and shorts.

SCHOOL OF STYLE

It's back to school, back to cool with these shorts and tops ensembles! Imbibe that school spirit and be a cool student with these eye-catching get-ups that will surely gain you popularity votes at the campus!

SURPLUS GREAT FASHION FINDS

Every P500 purchase from May 1-June 30 using the SM Advantage, SM Prestige and BDO Rewards Card holders to buy this stylish trench tote bag for only P199.75.

edgy

Show 'em your edge and turn heads with this outstanding number!

Ready to go for school with this foldable tank pant for P199.75.

BPA free reusable water tumblers in preppy color for only P487.75.

Black and red sneakers for back to school fun.

Become a fan - Surplus Shop

In almost all SM Supermalls

Styles may vary per store.

SUPER LIFESTYLE

Speed racer

Filipino-Swiss Formula One Racer Marlon Stockinger is the face of Globe's Tattoo Tonino Lamborghini broadband stick

By Pam Pesayo

There's no doubt about it—Marlon Stockinger has an irresistible need for speed. The twenty-year-old Filipino-Swiss Formula One racer began racing in 2006 and became the first Filipino to win a Formula race in Europe when he was just 19.

Marlon is very passionate about being the fastest on track so it comes as no surprise that globe chose him to be the face of their Tattoo Tonino Lamborghini, a broadband stick that promises to be the fastest in the market.

Dong Armquillo, head of Globe Tattoo, said, "The wait is over. Our subscribers can experience real SK technology with the new Tattoo Tonino Lamborghini. We are very excited to provide our subscribers with the fastest mobile internet connectivity that deep thought was never possible."

Super sat down with Marlon to talk about his passion for racing, Globe Tattoo's Lamborghini broadband stick and why he loves the internet.

Tell us about your love for speed.

It's something that is very deep-rooted because that's what my life is about at this moment in time. My profession is, to love speed. I do car racing, I race cars.

Why do you think Globe picked you to endorse Globe Tattoo Tattoo Tonino Lamborghini broadband stick?

Globe wants to be the fastest in the market and I want to be the fastest on track so that example, meets each other and it goes hand in hand. That's why this relationship we have now is working and that's why they chose me as their brand ambassador. I feel very privileged to have this opportunity.

When did you discover your love for racing?

I discovered it when my father took me to the racetrack for the first time. I was about nine and a half years old. Before that point, I had no interest in racing at all. That's when it all kicked off. He just had to take me there. It was always a love I had but never knew about until I walked in that day.

Can you tell us about the biggest race you've won?

It would have to be when I won my first race. It was pretty spectacular because it happened on the last lap and the last corner and I overtook two people. It was a pretty spectacular way to win my first go-kart race as a kid. I'll never forget that day. I think I was 10 or 11. It took a while for me to get there but once I started winning, I didn't stop.

What are your other passions?

I'm passionate about sports in general. I've always had a love for sports. Basketball, football and stuff like that. And in a way, a bit of fashion. It's something that's only come up recently. I think it's because of all the people who have been behind me in the past, my PR

SPREAD 2

GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS

A. UPIN BY JESS ABRERA

PUGAD BABOY BY PAUL LOGRON

DICK TRACY

LOVEMORE BY ELIZABETH MCCHONGLO

BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT

RIKO MACHINE BY RYAN ABRON

SEDI BY DANIEL SHELTON

HUTTS

SHERMAN'S LAGOON BY JIM TOOMEY

DAISY BY STEVE KELLEY AND JEFF PARKER

TULDOG BY RINA CULL

HOROSCOPE

BY PRISCILLA DYDASCO

ARIES (March 21 to April 20) Your euphoria at discovering each of someone's personality flaws, by all means, keep your wonderful secret to yourself. Good for you. Don't change a thing.

TAURUS (April 21 to May 20) Bad days, with partners and close friends, are inevitable today. There is a wicked sarcastic and personality bash-off scheduled just at about the time you're ready to stop talking.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) It's easy to get along with coworkers or employees today. You feel strong and absolutely healthy. Nevertheless, be cautious if you're cancelling an especially tedious evening appointment.

CANCER (June 21 to July 21) This is a wonderful day to make plans for next Thursday's party. Invite everybody you've ever met. Do this a good day to make optimistic, easy plans with those who would participate in sports or left-brained.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 22) Emotions are heavy today. You'll have gotten out of bed on the wrong side. Something will be ruined by your carelessness with family members. If you're put in charge of

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) This is a wonderful day for you to take your skills and your personality to work. Your self-confidence is at an all-time high. Your charisma is unbelievable. Someone's going to ask you out. Be careful.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Today is a day to be extra nice to your pets and the people you see frequently. Be extra kind to them. Don't make them cry. Don't make them sad. Don't make them feel bad.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You might be a speculator or someone in another profession who makes investments. Don't invest in anything today. You might pick up a cold or a virus. Be careful.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Today you'll be extra nice to your pets and the people you see frequently. Be extra kind to them. Don't make them cry. Don't make them sad. Don't make them feel bad.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) A conversation with a friend could be anything and maybe that's the problem. Don't pretend to know the name. Keep your hair perfectly groomed.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Don't go overboard trying to impress people you've just met. Instead, you will be tempted to be yourself. You should go right ahead and be yourself. Don't be afraid to be strange or to accept who you are. Don't pretend.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Don't agonize something too much today. Just be yourself. You're beautiful and today is going to be a beautiful day. Don't worry. Everything will be fine. Don't worry. Everything will be fine. Don't worry. Everything will be fine.

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. For more puzzles and programs, see www.sudoku.com

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

2	8	7	4	1	9	6	3	5
3	4	6	8	5	7	9	1	2
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Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

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Difficulty Level ★★★★

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

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9 Pungle
14 Like fake sweaters
15 Where to embrace
16 Beautiful object
17 Ring of the morning
18 Dwight D. Eisenhower's command
19 Like some cartoon characters
20 Commercial combination
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Speed racer

From page F1

and stuff, they're involved a lot in fashion and I guess that's opened a new chapter and a new book in my life. I'm kind of interested in it.

Do you intend to explore your interest in fashion?

I don't know. At this moment in time, I can only say I have a very genuine interest in it. I read a lot of the magazines—Esquire, GQ, and stuff like that. I don't know where it's how I would ever explore that. Right now it's just a hobby. I spend a lot of time in the plane and normally all I can do is read magazines.

When is your next big race and how can you prepare for it?

Mr. next big race is in Valencia and it will be middle of June. I'll be preparing by doing training in the gym, boat work (do we'll be going to some racetracks to do some testing to make sure the team and I are prepared before it all kicks off.

Are you in school now?

I don't remember. I was in school but stopped when I moved to England. I'm only 20 right now and I'm still very young. With the opportunity I have now, this is the only time in my life I can make the most out of it. It's basically blown if I don't make it. I can always go back to school. I promised my father, no matter what happens, I will finish my schooling.

What do you want to study?

To be fair, I haven't asked myself that question. I wouldn't know what to answer and I'd be lying if I just made one up.

Tell us about the Tattoo Tattoo Lamborghini on your chest.

It's just really cool how it's 11mbps. It's very fast. I don't think there's any other product that can beat it. And it's very convenient to have a broadband stick with you because you can log on to the web anytime if you want to do e-mail, if you want to check your Facebook and Twitter and stuff. It's very unwieldy and liberating. You don't always have to connect to a wifi server and get a password. It's none of a deterrent. It just speeds up the process which is what they want to do. And it's a very good-looking product. You have the new Lamborghini Gallardo, it's very sleek. Definitely can't be the above pulling this stick out and plugging it into the server.

Do you spend a lot of time online?

A good two hours online every day.

What are your five favorite websites?

Facebook, Twitter, autosport (autosport.com), it's a motor racing news website, YouTube and my website (www.markowebdesign.com).

What's the first thing you do when you go online?

I check my e-mails.

Do you keep in touch with your fans online?

No, I actually have a Facebook fan page and I also have a Twitter account (@mr_markogar). I'm the admin, I'm the one who created the page so it's really personal.

What do you love the most about the internet?

Its ability to connect people no matter where they are in the world. It's very convenient because I'm always away from my family and friends. If the internet wasn't there, it would make everything different. But no, I'm always up to date, it doesn't matter anything awkward, it's like you are over there. Especially with Skype, the last time you have just makes it so convenient. Keeping in touch has never been easier.

Is there anything you hate about it?

It's very easy to be addicted. There's so much stuff on there that you can waste a day almost just by looking at random things. That's the beauty of it in a way but you have to remind yourself sometimes.

How do you relax?

My version of relaxing is being able to stay home, just being with my family, just waking up the one hour while I'm in the Philippines. Just enjoying what you normally take for granted when you have longer time to spend here in the Philippines.

The Tattoo Tattoo Lamborghini stick is available under Tattoo's newest postpaid plans of P2,199 per month. Visit http://tattoo.globe.com.ph or call 7289 888.

SUPER SALE

Ready, set, shop

This weekend, go Croc-crazy at this year's Crocs Mega Sale. But before you go, arm yourself with these tips

By Patt Pichay

WATCH outs for those huge discounts.

The unrelenting rain didn't stop them. People of all ages lined up outside the SM Mall East last Wednesday, for this year's Crocs Mega Sale.

Inside, it was madness. People ran after newly opened boxes, dug through piles and piles of footwear in search of the right size, and crammed pair after pair of Crocs into their bags, as if they were competing in the shopping Olympics.

But who can blame them? The discounts were overwhelming—with some as high as 50%.

The sale is ongoing until tomorrow—until if you want to go Croc-crazy and cramps a symphony, here are some tips you might want to keep in mind.

1. Wear comfortable shoes. Trust us, your feet to.

2. Bring a small and light purse. You need to save your energy for lugging your purchases around the mall.

3. Keep your hands free—you'll need them for digging through the boxes.

4. Bring buddies. Invite friends and family members to go with you. Not only will you have more fun shopping with them, you'll have someone to chat with while queuing up.

5. If you find a shoe you really want but couldn't find the other half of the pair, don't let go of it. You might find to match many hours away.

6. Wear shoes that are easy to take off so trying on is a breeze.

7. Bring a book. Or your iPod. Or iPad. Just make sure you bring something to entertain yourself—you'll need it when you join the throngs of people lined up to pay for their purchases.

Literally Unbelievable: When satire happens to dense people

By Tavin Tang
Contributor

You couldn't blame me for the panic I felt when I came across a breaking news report on TV following a sudden school day cancellation, which featured a grave anchor announcing the arrival of a massive meteor that was about to enter our atmosphere and cause worldwide chaos in a few hours.

It was a good thing that I checked the channel (ABC) and the TV guide—it turned out to be a climactic B movie release format mimicked real-time news feeds, and did it so well that it had me fooled, along with a bunch of scurrying school packing and calling her relatives, screaming for them to evacuate immediately (true story).

My only consolation then was that it was the '90s, and social networks like Twitter and Facebook did not exist yet for me to play prophet of doom and demonstrate to friends and strangers how gullible I was.

Omnipresent

The omnipresent internet, combined with a steady influx of smartphones, has led to the spawning of an era journalism, where instantaneity is both celebrated and maligned. After all, not everyone who aspires to break news on social media platforms are armed with the necessary ethics to go with it. Thanks to unsavory and unreliable sources, hoaxes are constantly perpetrated, unwittingly or deliberately.

Of course, not all hoax news pieces floating on the Internet are meant to mislead, but rather to poke fun at a particular situation or

but topic, or to make one think and laugh at the same time—like a cartoon, but with more words and less squiggles.

Because of the democratic nature of the Internet, where it allows anyone to have access to it, regardless of understanding or a higher brain function—it's so easy, can do it all the time (see YouTube for proof)—a lot of people with hysterical blindness for satire tend to take these tongue-in-cheek pieces too seriously, often with funny results (funny when it's not real, and hilarious enough to merit its own blog).

"Literally Unbelievable" is a collection of everything from facebook reactions gone wrong to headlines from The Onion, an American satirical newspaper and website, that seem often more bizarre than deliberate or righteous input at best yet, as all cops must about the utter stupidity of the persons involved in the piece.

These reactions end up being funnier than the original satire piece, while some feel that the collective gullibility of people on the net is cause for alarm, as more and more people take the word on the web as truth without bothering to verify or even consult another site to be sure.

Visit Literally Unbelievable at http://literallyunbelievable.org for a laugh or two, and for a more serious dose of instantaneity take the road. Here you want to re-post then dodgy news article you just read.

YOUR FATHER'S DAY GIFT GUIDE FROM SM

It's **Father's Day** on Sunday, June 19, and it's the best time to turn the tables and give him a gift that will pamper him.

The Men's Zone of the SM Department Store has fragrance sets, grooming sets, as well as bath and body care items that are perfectly suited for his personality. Here's a Father's Day gift guide for **Career Oriented, Urban, Sporty**, and **Adventurous Dads**.

CAREER ORIENTED DADS

A Career Oriented Dad, not only heads the family, but also ranks high on the corporate ladder. A no-nonsense executive or businessman, it's best to give him a gift of fragrance with scents that embody achievement, success, and power.

212 Men NYC by Carolina Herrera After Shave Gel and Eau de Toilette Gift Set.

URBAN DADS

Urban Dads live for the fast paced city life. Always on the go and up to date with the latest trends, they will appreciate hair products that will keep them suave, savvy, and in-style.

Jonathan Spray, Dirt Texture Hold Hairspray, Detox Dirt Clarifying Shampoo and Dirt Texturizing Paste On-The-Go Kit.

SPORTY DADS

Sporty Dads are active and competitive on the tennis court, on the golf course, or on a triathlon meet. Healthy and fit, they will love bath and body products for a boost of freshness and energy, especially after a game.

Adidas Pure Game Eau de Toilette, Shower Gel and Deo Body Spray.

ADVENTUROUS DADS

Adventurous Dads crave for freedom and excitement and are always exploring the great outdoors and embarking on new places and things to discover. Surprise them this Father's Day with facial, bath, and body items for cleansing and rejuvenation.

Lab Works Lightening Facial Cleanser, Energizing Body Wash and Cool Blues Deo Cologne.

These gift suggestions are available at the Beauty Section of SM Department Stores and at selected Watsons stores nationwide.

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SATURDAY Special

Editor Nestor U. Torre ● Assistant Editor Rita P. Avila

You Can Be A Hero!

June 14 is World Blood Donor Day. On this day, who knows whose life you can save by being a blood donor? However, for you to be able to give blood, you have to maintain a healthy level of iron in your diet. Eat iron-rich food such as spinach, red meat, fish, poultry beans, iron-fortified cereals and raisins. Also, take Centrum Silver, the multivitamin-mineral formula Complete from A to Zinc, specially formulated for adults 50 and up. Centrum Silver has age-essential nutrients like Vitamins B12, K, Folic Acid, Copper and Iron for normal blood cell formation so that the ability to help others, literally, is in your blood.

MULTIVITAMINS + MINERALS
Centrum
Silver
Live. Complete.

Jessica Chastain's stellar career is off to a roaring start

LOS ANGELES—Jessica Chastain is worried that she might be the first actress across everyone will get sick of. The 34-year-old redhead plays Brad Pitt's wife in Terrence Malick's "Tree of Life," which was swarmed the top prize at this year's Cannes film festival.

Later this year, Chastain stars in the drama, "The Help," based on Kathryn Stockett's best-selling novel, "The Help," an espionage drama starring Oscar winner, Helen Mirren, as well as the crime drama, "The Fields," with Sam Worthington.

Character

"I've made 11 films; nine are waiting for release," Chastain told Reuters. "I'm a little worried that people will get sick of me. But, because the characters I play are so different in each film, hopefully they won't."

Blame it on Malick, the notoriously reclusive filmmaker who gave Chastain her big break in "Tree of Life." Though the director's films are hardly commercial hits, the critical acclaim they engender makes Hollywood sit up and take notice.

"Tree of Life" was shot three years ago, but Chastain said her association with the film instantly "opened doors for me to work with other directors."

It isn't the first break to come her way, however. Chastain attended the prestigious Juilliard school in New York on a scholarship from Juilliard alumnus, Robin Williams.

"But, the actress that never met Williams: "I know at some point I'm going to meet him, and it will be very special," she mused. "Because I'm the first person in my family to go to college—and I feel he made that possible!"

Reuters

National Book Store

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NOW SHOWING

Spielbergian hit and comedic miss

CHANDLER, COURTNEY, HANNING AND ELOLAND. Mixed fractured relationships in "Super 8."

By Ben F Zahn

LAST WEEKEND, we braved the rain and floods to catch Apple Cinder's screening of J.J. Abrams' "Super 8"—and we're glad we did. The concept and premise of "Super 8" seems a prodigious Steven Spielberg production—including titles Blake aren't all that new, but what the movie lacks in originality, it more than makes up for in execution, excitement, movie-making flair...and a lot of heart.

The film follows a group of middle-school misfits, led by an adult-wise director, Charles (Riley Griffiths), and his makeup and special effects guy, Joe (Joel Courtney), as they attempt to finish a zombie movie they're hoping for a non-film festival.

To their delight, the school's female beauty, Alice (the luminescent Elle Fanning), agrees to star in it! Joe's dreamy dreadful dad (Kyle Chandler) is none too pleased about the girl's participation, however—because in Abrams' last decade before Peter Gabriel is the accidental deaths of his wife years ago.

But during a midnight shoot at an old train station, Alice and the boys find themselves caught in the midst of a major catastrophe than almost kills Alice—and, without their knowing about it, their camera captures the whole incident!

So, when Joe and Charles play the reel back, they are something strange in it, which could explain the various events that have been happening in their small suburban community. Yet, we're talking about paranormal and extraterrestrial occurrences...but we'll stop there before we spoil the whole thing for you.

The film has a lot of exciting action sequences. But, all that spectacle proves no match to the genuine and heartfelt human moments captured within the touching performances...particularly in that between Joe and Alice, and more movingly those between relationships with their flawed but well-meaning fathers.

As the narrative moves along, it'll show you in even more and more you can be as characters as they struggle to move on from past hurts and learn to let go.

The production's big scenes are impressive, all right, but they don't drown viewers' attention away from to intimate human elements...a fitting tribute to the early years of an legendary producer.

'The Hangover, Part II'

"The Hangover, Part II" does the opposite for its predecessor. Todd Phillips' sequel to 2009's hilarious comedy of errors more than reasonably smart to incredible calculations, as it finds its dimwit protagonists—Phil (Bradley Cooper), Alan (Zach Galifianakis) and Stu (Ed Helms)—in Thailand to attend the latter's wedding, pitfully pressing second their nuts and smoke confusion. Adam "play, ground" offers a night of inebriated bliss and more.

Like what happened in Vegas, the hits doesn't have any recollection of the previous night's mayhem, making Stu's decision to date the sister of his new, however, several clues that they did, in fact, find their way out of the woods. There's a drug-dealing monkey, a severed finger, a "mushroom" the entity seriously accessible ladyboys, and more gangsters who are more than willing to blow the party-hopping morons to smithereens if they don't get what they want.

To be fair, the wacky gang's antics manage to generate laugh-out-loud moments from time to time—but, for the most part, the film's humor is trite and more in your face.

We also find the inclusion of Stu Lee's son, Marcus (in the bride's north brother), in the gang refreshing. But, the psychedelic disparities elements had to come together and confirm Jake's colorful story so they did in the 2009 original.

This time, the guys use the way into a federation pool of inebriation—more clothed up as comedy that doesn't amount to much. Besides, just how many times can something that implausible happen to the same people, however adorable they may be, without making viewers question their judgment—or sanity? As they say, lightning doesn't strike the same place twice!

New leads topbill fave flicks

By Hesse G. Tave

EXCITEMENT IS GEARING up soon—and movie titles—for "Turtle," new actor Thomas McDonnell, this year. He's cast as the titled artist who steals the show in the comedy drama, "Pursuit" (only his second film!), but that is the least outstanding his performances: he was asked to audition for "The Rum Diary," "Death Note" and was the coveted role of young Brandon Collins, who will be played to an adult counter by no less than—Johnny Depp! That definitely is the way to go for a first, young actor just coming to the big time.

Lead singer

Aside from being no more on the verge of a major acting career, McDonnell is also a musician: the lead singer of a rock 'n' roll band called Mom that released its first CD last year!—and a gifted visual artist whose works have been exhibited internationally! Some people have all the...plastic!

For her part, Annie Cheng, who got good notices in the fiercely local fanfare in "Yankee Panda," is cast in the only female lead played in "The Hangover, Part II," which is now a worldwide, leaving instantly grossed in multiple: there was a $200 million worldwide.

In the film, Cheng's character, Lauren, is marrying the Phil Helmet in Bangkok, despite her father's vigorous objections. Her other film outings include "Grown Ups" and "The Man with the Iron Fist" with Russell Crowe.

Blake Lively is another young female actress who's being kept busy and even poised to explode on the silver screen, after her acclaimed performances in "The Town," the crime flick Ryan Reynolds' freaky love interest, Good Boss, in "The Green Lantern."

Producer Arnold De Line observes, "Blake and Ryan had great chemistry together right off the bat. It translates easily on the screen, when these characters are in the heat of battle—or of passion!"

Lively thoroughly enjoyed playing her character in the film, an alpha-female who's definitely no damsel in distress. In fact, she's the one who rescues not her male counterparts, and the actress had a final parting her mouth to mutter, "Bad Mother!"

In the field of comedy, the actor lineage continues on the comedic duo of G. Anne Peggy and Dick Peard, the stars of the current sit-in-speed, "Fred." They first acted together in a little comedy about London, "Shaun of the Dead," filmed in 2004. The flick didn't set the box office on fire, but it did make their producer, Nick Frost, realize that she had a comedically fun, new comedy team in Simon and Nick, so she asked them what other ideas they had for production.

Spoof

They suggested a spoof-on-wild spoof about two British comic-book fine who encounter a particular alien while on a road trip across the United States—and the seed for "Fred" was planted.

It took six more years before we the project was finally filmed, but the long wait was worth it, because "Fred" has turned out to be a sleeper hit, a "small" film with surprisingly hefty muscle in the box office.

How that they've been launched, the new comedy team of Peggy and Peard look fast to be the biggest comedic discoveries of the season. What does Peard going for them that's endearingly different is their laid-back, nerdy way of making viewers laugh, a welcome departure from the cheesy, stuff, "rob-tech smack" style of most new comers. —Thanks, Simon and Nick, for the sweet relief!

BAHAMAS. Unique combination of retro, camp, idiosyncratic superstars and "amazing" arrangements and singing.

Next big step for Baihana

EARLIER THIS year, the new bistro trio, Baihana, had to reinvented "pre-view" debut at Tourists in Greenhills, wowing in tourists earned of club music aficionados with its unique combination of retro-y, camp, idiosyncratic superstars and "amazing" arrangements and singing.

Right after that great **MONTAGE** to 500 words or less. Encouraging us the dream, "Why My Mom Deserves to be Member of the Year."

Call 353-1404 or e-mail mega@mtrade.com.ph. The seven finalists will be listed at SM Mercuhol on June 18-19.

Gadgets Boosters winners

Round Table winners of Best Cellular's newest Gadgets Boosters promise new Skin Landlocker Chip for love in Singapore and Universal Studios premier. Paolo Marquez Hamstring Cards Corby with Wi-Fi hotspot and Rockville Colorado 400x2 Pearl's 961.

'What's That Golf'

The Sun sun.com, "Who's That Golf," starring Anne Curtis, Luis Manzano and Bayani Domingo, is now out on video. Other stars include Dina Bonnevier and Dennis Padilla.

New episodes on Nickelodeon

Catch hilarious new episodes on SpongeBob SquarePants! Premiers Week at 7 p.m. daily. Team Krabby gets invited as guests of honor to the prestigious Robocon in an saturday special, guest-starring Jack Black at 7 p.m. on June 17.

Finally, get up and dance in the original cutest of Nick's newest series, "The Nick Beat Band." It's set in a music school and addresses problems preadolescent encounter daily. Premiers Septembers at 7:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. starting June 20).

Ayen Laurel is Kenaya'

Ayen Laurel plays Hara Lingayen, the queen and wife of Datu Magiting Ian (Jacky Tenorio). Once married to royalty in real life, Ayen can relate to her role...but, not her character's disposition.

She shares, "I'm more outspoken than Lingayen. The makes playing the role more challenging, because she's far from who I really am."

Monday Madness dinner

Relax and recharge with Emmwood Rothenside (Scott's Emmwood Cafe's Monday Madness Dinner, available all Mondays of June from 6:30 p.m. Call 353-7777.

'The Glee Project'

Premiering June 13, Monday, on satellite at 11 p.m., with a premiere replay at 8 p.m. on Jack TV and ETC. "The Glee Project" follows 12 talented, young performers as they compete for the chance to win a seven-episode guest-starring role in the third season of "Glee." Judges include Ryan Murphy, Robert Ulrich and Zach Woodlief.

Also premiering on ETC on June 13 is "Runway and Bikini (Kardashian Take Miami," at 7 p.m.

Chris Tia for OraCare

Still improvement is something that basketball star and TV host, Chris Tia, believes in—hence, his decision to switch from his old mouthwash to OraCare Mouthrinse, which he finds pleasant to use and an effective aid and very effective in removing unpleasant mouth odors. OraCare comes in Cool, Regular and Arctic variants.

'Human Target'

The second season of "Human Target" started streaming on the Universal channel last June 8, Wednesday at 10:05 p.m.

Kylie Minogue at the Big Dome

When Kylie Minogue comes to Manila for the first time for her "Aphrodite Live 2011 World Tour," expect her to set the stage on fire with her powerful presence and performance.

The Australian singing sensation invades the Araneta Coliseum on July 8 at 8 p.m. Call Ticket Net at 911.5555, or Wilhem Gee at 374-9999.

LIVELY (RIGHT WITH REYNOLDS). She's on the road to stardom.

MCDONNELL. The promising actor is also a musician—and a gifted visual artist.

CHANG. Cast in the role of female lead in "The Hangover 2."

FRED AND PEGG. Laid-back, comic way of making viewers laugh.

WIN TICKETS TO MILEY'S CONCERT FROM NBS!

After "Bother Town," the "Cyrus virus" hits the Philippines! Less than a month before her lone Asian gig to Manila, Miley Cyrus concert ticket sales have been overwhelming! Tickets are fast running out and fans can't wait for June 17! Since May, Miley's series of concerts in North and Central America have been making headlines as she has been taking us thousands of loyal fans to a thrilling musical adventure. Fans are expected to be up on their feet as she performs favorite songs such as "Party In The USA," "Nothing Said Screaming," "7 Things" and "Scars" She also performed ballads such as "Obsessed" and "Forgiveness and Love." Moreover, in her Pete concert, Miley even teared up while singing her most famous single, "The Climb."

Get a chance to win tickets to her concert through the National Book Store Facebook page. Just comment on the "Miley Cyrus" post your answers to "Why do you love Miley?" until June 14 to qualify. Four (4) lucky winners of two (2) tickets each will be announced in the NBS Facebook page shortly after. Winners must present one (1) valid ID to claim their tickets in the customer service area of NBS SM Mall of Asia on opening day.

Fans from all over Asia and the world can catch the former Disney darling at the SM Mall of Asia Concert Grounds on June 17, 2011. Ticket prices to the Miley Cyrus Gypsy Heart concert to the Philippines are available at VIP 97,840; Gold A 19,670; Gold B 14,670; Silver 11,500; Bronze 17,104; Gen Ad 7900 *prices are inclusive of all charges. TICKET HOTLINES: SM Tickets 470.2222; TicketWorld: 891.9999. For promo seats, call Fencerunners at (632) 3988.LIVE (5483) or (0917) 8884470.

NATIONAL BOOK STORE TO LAUNCH PASSION BY NEW YORK TIMES' BEST SELLING AUTHOR, LAUREN KATE

National Book Store takes pride to bringing to New York Times bestselling author Lauren Kate back to the Philippines for the launch of her new book titled Passion, the third novel exact to the supernatural romance series, Fallen.

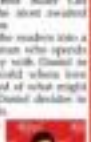
The Passion Tour will make stops on July 16, 2 pm, at the Glorietta 5 Atrium and on July 17, 1 pm, at Ayala Center Cebu Activity Center. With the success of Fallen and its sequel Torment, debuting at #3 and #1 in the New York Times Best Seller List respectively, Passion is one of the most awaited young adult fiction releases this year.

In this new book, Lauren takes the readers into a journey with Luce, a flawed woman who spends her afterlife reliving her love story with Daniel in hopes of finding the key to a world where love transcends time and death. Terrified of what might happen if Luce rewrites history, Daniel decides to chase her through their shared pasts.

Come in full angel gear and be one (1) of fifty (50) lucky fans to get a guaranteed signing pass and other exciting prizes.

The Passion Tour is part of NBS' continuing efforts to provide quality titles that can capture the hearts, minds, and imaginations of diverse Filipino readers. Follow National Book Store on Facebook and Twitter to find out the latest and best author events and book releases only from National Book Store.

The Passion Tour is in partnership with Citibank, Silay Shangri-la, Glorietta, Ayala Center Cebu and Random House. Special thanks to Cebu Pacific Air, Shangri-la and Krispy Kreme.



GET LIMITED EDITION GREEN LANTERN ITEMS AT NBS

Your favorite superhero Green Lantern is back, and set to conquer the big screen next week. Before heading to the cinemas, make a stop at selected National Book Store branches and take home free limited edition Green Lantern premium items. NBS is giving away a free Green Lantern bookmark for every purchase of any DC title and a free Green Lantern poster for anyone who buys the Green Lantern: Secret Origin movie tie-in book.

What's more, National Book Store is giving comic book enthusiasts a chance to own an exclusive Green Lantern t-shirt through the Green Lantern Facebook promo. Those who are interested to join must submit an art interpretation of any Green Lantern character (using any medium and style) to contentmanager@nbsstore.com.ph on or before June 13.

Entries will be posted on the NBS Facebook page, wherein people can vote for their favorite entries from June 14 to 26. Three (3) entries that get the most number of votes plus two (2) NBS picks will get to take home the limited edition item. Winners will be announced shortly after the deadline of submission of entries.

Green Lantern: Secret Origin is available for P599. Green Lantern graphic novels are available at the Comic Zone in selected National Book Store branches. Follow National Book Store on Facebook and Twitter for exclusive offers and contests.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL PROMOS AT NATIONAL BOOK STORE

At National Book Store, get the chance to take home the Multimedia Carryall and the Gadget Binder. Bring home the Multimedia Carryall for FREE for every single-receipt purchase worth P1,000 with any participating product marked with the "N" sticker.

The Multimedia Carryall is the perfect travel buddy to keep your cellphones, music players and laptop accessories safe and scratch. Get the Gadget Binder for only P300 for every single-receipt purchase worth P500 with any participating product with the "N" Sticker. The Gadget Binder has 2 ring binders and 50 sheets of paper perfect for scribbling notes and ideas. It also has a special grid and 2 velcro pockets to support your gadgets.

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A1 Citiatlas, A2
Citiatlas, M1 Metro Manila

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SATURDAY Special

Cruise, Streep, Roberts step out of their comfort zones

By Rito P. Asilo

IF YOU think you saw the last of the hooky Tom Cruise in 2008's "Tropic Thunder," in which he portrayed a hitmen movie executive with a potty mouth, think again. After the superstar reignites the "Mission: Impossible" film franchise we steal Brad's "Ellenor Pevensie" hats this year, Cruise will further expand his comfort zone by appearing in Julien Temple's big-screen version of the rock and jukebox stage musical, "Rock of Ages"—as a rock star!

In Warner Bros.' film (helmed by frontman of a rock band, Cruise isn't just going to be a bubble in the musical, he'll also be stretching his pipes in challenging tunes like Bon Jovi's "Wanted Dead or Alive"; Quiet Riot's "Cum On Feel The Noize" and Styx's "Renegade." He will be sharing the spotlight with Alec Baldwin, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Paul Giamatti and (Mick) Jagger.

Well, if "mannequin" Meryl Streep can sing in movies ("Mamma Mia," "Postcards from the Edge") and win accolades for it, why can't Tom, right?

Speaking of Streep, Tinsel town's "greatest living actress" enters the level of thespic difficulty for herself again when she channels Margaret Thatcher in "The Iron Lady." Phyllida Lloyd's intimate portrait of the United Kingdom's first (and only) female Prime Minister. We've seen stills from the movie, and it sure looks like Streep is up for another winning characterization.—and the Ruby Instilled and confident gent are just for starters!

On the rocks

After that, the acting icon reunites with director David Frankel ("The Devil Wears Prada") in "Hope Springs," about a middle-aged couple (played by Streep and Tommy Lee Jones) whose marriage is on the rocks. To patch up their differences, they decide to go through intensive marriage counseling. But, does their union stand a chance if their therapist turns out to be—Steve Carell?

Like Cruise, Julia Roberts also goes the cotton-to route in Tarsem Singh's revisionist "Snow White," which sees the lovely princess (Lily Collins) and her wicked mom (Roberts) pitching to reclaim the dreamland kingdom from the Evil Queen, played by—would you believe?—Julia!

STREEP Typical Julianne portrait of England's only female Prime Minister.

Romantic drama

This month, the Streep-Tom pic will be next with Tom Hanks in the feel-good romantic drama, "Larry Crowne," about a middle-aged man (Hanks) who goes back to college after unexpectedly losing his job. Roberts plays the world-weary teacher he develops a crush on.

Another three actors who keeps pushing the envelope is Angelina Jolie, who will play the title role in David Fincher's ambitious retelling of "Cleopatra," the last pharaoh of ancient Egypt—who married her brother, consummated a liaison with Julius Caesar, and allegedly herself with Mark Antony to keep her steady grip on the throne.—? That's certainly right up Jolie's alley!

Trivia: The last high-profile big-screen project about the legendary queen was the 1963 epic starring Elizabeth Taylor. Made at $44 mil lion (equivalent to about $297 million in 2007, after adjusting for inflation), it is one of the most expensive movies ever made.

Joseph Mankiewicz's production climbed to $4,944,000 budget for Taylor's 65 costumes alone —including a dress made from 24-carat gold cloth! Alas, the movie was a flop. Let's hope Jolie's version doesn't suffer the same fate.

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Dance group is steadfast in its mission

Ramil Sarmiento

MAMEDO (far right) "Romeo and Juliet."

THE PHILIPPINE Ballet Theater (PBT), is the country's pioneering ballet organization. Founded 42 years ago by Nic Rudel, Eddie Elejar and Julie Borromeo, its mission is to present classical dance to Filipino audiences and help develop their appreciation for ballet.

Recently, its Pearl Season, previously of CCP, inducted PBT's 2011 board members and trustees, headed by Glanglève Kalaw Johnel and Tikkie Sison (vice chair). Other officers: Cha-Cha Camacho, president; Aphia Lichauco de Leon, vice president; Shari Lacsamana, secretary; Mitchiki Hayakawa, treasurer; and lawyer Randy Perez Jr., legal counsel.

Exciting year

Camacho says, "This is an exciting year for PBT. We will be staging three full-length productions on CCP." "Romeo and Juliet," will be shown on July 7-10, directed by prima ballerina Shalyn Bartolo. On Sept. 15-18 comes "Cinderella," followed by version nodes, "Nutcracker Ballet Suite," on Nov. 17-20.

The company is steadfast in its mission. Camacho explains, "We are stepping up our outreach programs, with the hope of reaching a wider audience, as well as discovering talented but untapped dancers around the country."

Bell is low with flattened all over excited. Her mobile: sarsarmiento.blogspot.com, or call 899-1797.

FANS' DAY

Robin Padilla still charms viewers

By Arch Rule

"ROBIN PADILLA must rate to be his title, but I am amazed at how he has kept his youthful glow on TV," says Linda Zarate, an **subscriber**. "I saw him on two ABS-CBN shows last Saturday promoting his latest telenovela and he looked still on top of. He still has his trademark sunglasses stance when he moves and speaks, but it didn't bother me."

"The guy knows how to charm the opposite sex, so would younger women still fall for him. Had he failed on an episode host of their seventies show that used to be Rob Aquino's, I think it would have turned longer. Rodeo to his website for making him look good. I hope his TV show with Bea Alonzo does well."

Other notes:

Julie Patino, a well-groomed **French painter** "My day isn't complete without watching TV. It allows me to 'jump' from one comedy to another—and from a cooking lesson to Chinese to another one to Italian. I love Christine Jacob-Sandoper' Makin Bunsa,' which features easy-to-cook meals for the busy.

Sincerity

"I also like 'Iray Sunos Tayo,' because Sean Enriquez is such an engaging person. She has sincerity written all over her—making Ayesa 'Bubble Gang' is another favorite, because it's really clean. And, I'm a fan of Jessica Soho Reports."

Luz Dilleo, a student: "John Estrella has improved me in so many and numerous ways because. And, the expressions of Mrs. Philippines-Earth probably shared the same sentiment when they got him as host of the pageant's finale' night last Saturday.

"Also, it turned out to be an smarter decision, after all. John struggled with his scripted spiels, and he kept misreading his lines! He would have fared better if the spiels were written in Filipino."

E-mail: luzsandy@yahoo.com

SOHO, SANDOVAL AND ENRIQUEZ. Engaging morning opinions.

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For Rihanna, there's no easy way to talk about violence

By Bea F Ado

FOR RIHANNA, it's never easy to talk about the "demons" that give her sleepless nights. Take the stripped-down, all-emotive version of her collaboration with Eminem, "Love The Way You Lie," about a toxic relationship, and sung from a woman's perspective. It's the Barbadian songstress, there's no easy way to talk about violence.

Just the same, she stresses she used the advocacy issues "to be addressed seriously," segue-ness of how uncomfortable it makes people feel. She's at it again in "Who Knows," the reggae-tinged R&B tune from her fifth studio album, "Loud," about a girl who avenges the sexual assault she suffered at the hands of her abuser.

Ironically, some music channels balked at playing the controversial video—which opens with a man being shot in the head! But Rihanna, who was attacked on the eve of the 2009 Grammys by former boyfriend, Chris Brown, insists that victims of sexual abuse and domestic violence need a voice, too. "I wanted to give to say a very serious matter that people are afraid to discuss openly. If I can speak for many victims whose voices aren't heard, then I win WIN!"

Visibility

All too often, violence and drug use are dished to young up a hip-hop or pop star's "cool" factor and hit-making visibility—or, sometimes to shut. It's refreshing to hear songs that don't merely glorify or "romanticize"

RIHANNA. Controversial video for a reformed song.

Tribute to Manny Pichel

By Nestor U. Torre

PICHEL. His no-pulling example lives on in "Pagliawd ng Anghel."

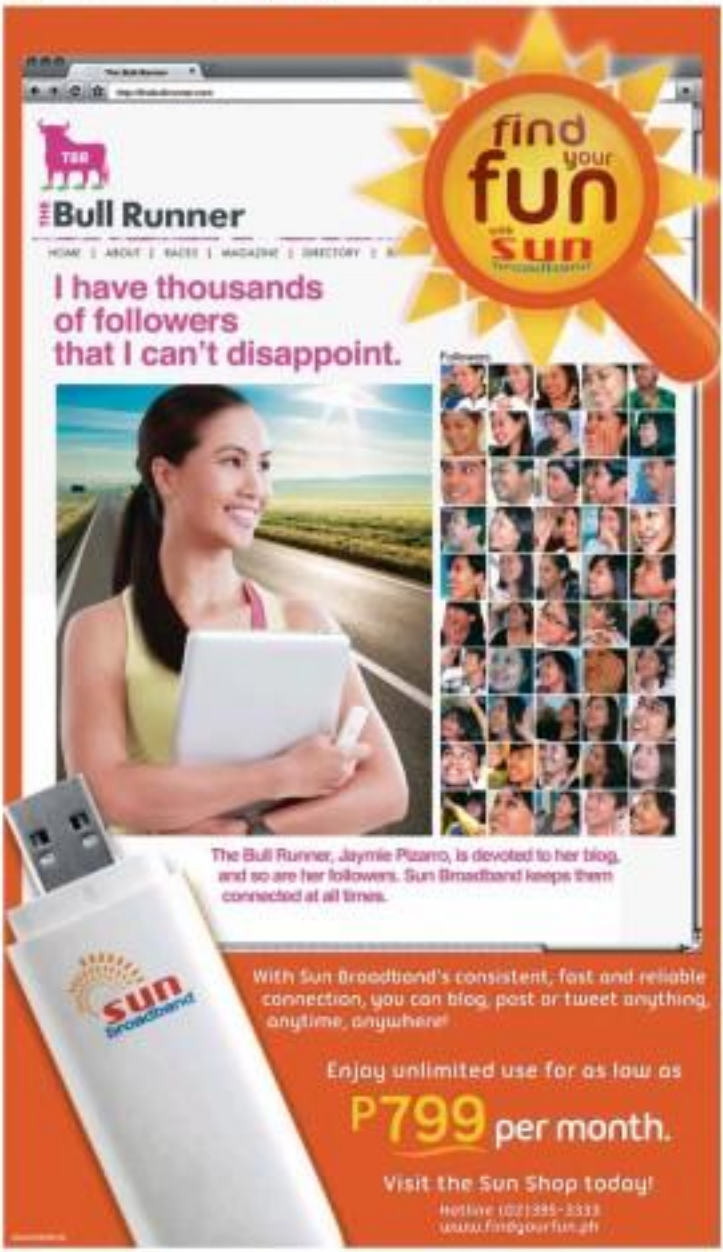
WHEN BOY del Mundo's latest film, "Pagliawd ng Anghel," is premiered at 7 p.m. on June 12 at SM Mall of Asia, we'll be watching, because the movie dedicated to our dear friend, Manuel Pichel.

No, the movie's story is not about Manny, it's simply been inspired by something he did when he was alive and working as entertainment editor of the Daily Inquirer in Manila's Port Area, where we would visit him before our jaunts into Manila's nightlife ("for research purposes only" was our thinly-held-cover alibi).

Stormy night

It was during one of those evenings that Manny confided to us that, one

TRIBUTE 6



Potent elements energize *Robin-Bea* starrer

By Nestor U. Torre

WE CROSSED the first release of the new TV "action-romance" series, "Gutsy and Bossy," and found that it has an ironic plot premise that, in time, could develop into a powerful conflict for its two main protagonists Joshua Zuñiga and Bea Alonzo.

Here as they slowly but surely fall for each other, but fate to come to grips with the chilling realization that the man she loves could be the gun for hire who killed her fiance—at their wedding day! You can't get much more dramatically challenged and interesting than that.

All of those taped transmission reared their hydra heads during the show's very first telecast, which says a lot about the new series' brisk pacing and total lack of indecision and organization of the various potent elements that comprise its volatile dramatic "capital."

Mileage

As for the all-important screen "chemistry" between Robin and Bea, it's there—in heaps...so, the actors can get a lot of dissenting mileage from their romance-spurring. But, it's pretty much been over and done before, so we hope that this new show can hit a fresher note soon, to make its standard exposition most believably.

The "problem" seems to be fiction. He's done this before in his movies with top contractive costars like Sharon Cuneta, who gave as well as they took. So, his run-and-dog encounters with Bea are short of surprising.

Rogues' gallery

Still on Robin, it's disappointing to see that his directors in this new show haven't been able to sufficiently cure in his vagaries or "Robin-isms" that, to some up with a bracingly new or at least "adjusted" character-ization of yet another "bad boy" in his extensive rogues' gallery of TV film persona.

Years ago, Robin did succeed in making a different tragic lush in Mark Meily's "La Vie Loca," but he's back to his old tricks again.

To be sure, quite a number of viewers will find the actors star's old moves diverting—and it's really quite amazing that he still looks so fit and "young" many years after his morning soul-sucking start in the biz.

But, it would have been great if this show's fresh "Bea factor" could have restored Robin into adjusting his act to keep up with his lively, dynamic and psychologically-savvy new co-star. Well, perhaps in due time . . .

Occupation

Sort is, if Robin takes a good look at his new character's "occupational hazards," he'll see that it offers him many opportunities to screen-test with a remarkable performance. It's intimated that the "hot man for justice" he portrays is no longer at peace with his lethal occupation, so there's dramatic stress and conflict there...Inspiration.

It's also there in his relationship with his younger sibling, who's quite ironically a cop, could further test and challenge his resolves. Then, there's the entire guilt over gunning down the former fiance of the woman he loves. Again, there's stress to be worked in this time to shatter their loving relationship.

—So many dramatic possibilities, if only the action dramas that would want to do more, and better. Pluuh! that he quite to be exactly that!

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—So many dramatic possibilities, if only the action dramas that would want to do more, and better. Pluuh! that he quite to be exactly that!

For Rihanna . . .

From page 6

them. Some recording artists unconscionable the issues tackled in their songs to drum up interest for (and boost the sales of) their albums.

True, organizing the release from the chaff isn't easy, but the earnest and well-meaning core message is held up to scrutiny. The public and the media tend to be consistently vigilant against opportunists who take advantage of people who can't readily protect themselves. Let's "review" a number of recordings that tackle different instances of violence and abuse:

Disturbing depiction

Rocking with Army and metalhead Alabama Shakes' 1967 single, "Yonks," is a disturbing depiction of child abuse and the culture of silence inherent in domestic situations: "My name is Lolita/ I live on upstairs from you/ If you hear something late at night/ Some kind of trouble, some kind of fight/ Just don't ask me what it was/ They only hit until you cry/ After that, you don't ask why/ It's not your business to intervene."

Bessie Smith's "Outside Of That, He's Alright With Me" chokily sings about the cycle of violence a woman goes through: "He blacked my eye, I couldn't see/ Then, he yawned the things he gave to me/ But, outside of that, he's alright with me."

In Lisa Hanchfield's "All Around the World," it's the sexiest video you've ever heard: "I let myself go/ I said so many things, things he didn't know/ I did too much lying/ And I was oh so bad/ I don't think he's coming back."

Blues classic

Ms. Cox doesn't put up with abuse and breaks to fight back in the blues classic, "Will Women Don't Have the Blues": "Poor women sit around all day and moan/ Wondering why their wandering payne don't come home/ I go to see my pay me and if he doesn't all right/ You never get anything by being an angel, child!"

Another memorable tune is Sarah McLachlan's "Shelter," about a girl who prays for shelter and protection for abused children and other helpless "creatures". "Give them shelter from the coming storm/ Say, there's no place to hide/ I can't sleep, haunted by their cries/ It hurts so much to see them helpless/ There's so much left unanswered/ For so many innocent lives/ They closed the door and are leaving nobody in/ And only the strong will survive!"

Hard work pays off for Gloria and Susan

By Rarry Ulanera

TWO OF the longest-reigning movie queens in local cinema, Metropolis Pictures' Gloria Romero and Susan Roces, whose wholesome image...thanks to the monthly chore in their studio costumes...remains unscathed.

In fact, Gloria Romero had the distinction of playing the Virgin Mary in "Maria sa Golgota," a Lenten presentation at the Manila Grand Opera House in Avenida. In "Iginhawa ng Sulilaan," Gloria portrayed the famous First Lady Imelda Marcos.

Known for her professionalism, Gloria never allows herself to be a slave to cause of delay. Maryo J. delos Reyes, her director in "Mainit Hanging," confirms, "Gloria is a dream to work with. She's always on time and comes to work prepared." At 77, the actress still possesses a sharp mind and can remember her lines without difficulty.

First team-up

Like Gloria, hard work has honorably paid off for Susan Roces. At age 14, Susan was described by the late Nor Jeron as "the best that television." When Jeron was producing FPJ Productions sought her services for "Ang Siyagit Ko's Buse," her first team-up with Fernando Poe Jr. another landmark movie they did together was "Pulot ng Gintong," co-starring Vic Vergel. Their wedding by FPJ was hailed as the Wedding of the Century.

Susan returns to acting in "Bulaong Kampalupa," a talent she plays the vengeful Helena Sarong. She also welcomes the opportunity of working with Nicolas Fuentes, her son's real dating their Sampaguita brother.

ROMERO AND ROCES. Portray pivotal roles in "Mainit Hanging Kampalupa," respectively.

Harmony—at last

MY FRIEND'S son was a rebellious child. He was full of fun and energy. He had boundless curiosity and loved music and the arts. He excelled in academics, science and sports.

He it came as a great surprise to all of us when he became uncommunicative and troubled. He had to his room most of the time and refused to go to school.

After much shocking, it became apparent that the competition in school had brought out the worst in his classmates. Their favorite game in the bus but had the opposite effect on them.

As their aggression increased, so did jealousy, anger, and even violence. All this caused great misery to themselves and those around them.

He are all individuals. Each of us is gifted differently. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we recognized that we could all reach our full potential without trying to be better than everyone else? If we just try to overcome our weaknesses while we develop our talents, we would all come out as winners, and humility and tolerance are learned. After all, by nature we desire to live...love and generosity.

Let us accept each other for what we are. Then, there can be harmony...at last!

E-mail: superlotuspool@gmail.com

Tribute to Manny Pichel

From page 6

evening night earlier that week, he had seven an old beggar lamenting from cold and hunger. Instead of leaving the old man where he lay, Manny decided to go out of his way to help him, despite the extremely stormy weather.

Since there were no cabs around, Manny had to wait for a long time, and for the family's safety, and even persuaded the rig driver to take him and his shivering companion to the area in Tondo who belonged to Mother Teresa's order, and took care of the impoverished and homeless sick until dying.

Yes, Manny shared; this old man eventually passed away, but at least he felt cared for and loved. Later, Manny would donate money to the area, to help them take care of sick "lost" souls.

LUCERO. Portrays a young man who triumphs only grows a pair of wings.

That wasn't the only time that Manny would bring poor shirtless to the suits in Tondo. It became his "hobby" several occasion, which he shared only with his closest friends. When Trey heard of what Manny had done, he was, like us, very moved...and eventually wrote a movie script inspired by it.

Manny himself died some years later—and that was when Trey decided to look for funding to film the script he had written that was inspired by Manny's "secret" mission.

Act of kindness

In "Pagligad ng Anghel," "Manny's little story has been transmuted and reworked to tell the stronger but inspiring tale of a young man (Sid Lucero) who, after making a similar act of extreme kindness, is rewarded (shocked!) to discover that—he's growing a pair of wings!

As you can imagine, the discovery confuses, scares and even discombobulates him, and wreaks havoc on his personal life. Of course, the growths are angel wings!

TURN TO 16

Substantial themes, provocative insights in 'X-Men' prequel

By Hector G. Torre

MCAVOY AND FASSBENDER. Believable and magnetic pairing.

VIEWERS INTERESTED in screen narratives remained high, so filmmakers are only too happy to continue stroking the goose that has been laying all those golden eggs at the box office.

The latest "mutant fest," "X-Men: First Class," expands the genre's universe to include the youth misfits by limiting most right "mutant" mutants, each with his or her own unique superpower—and monumental drag on their identities.

To make the storytelling even more ambitious, the film sets a lot of its plot in the distant past to demonstrate its lead mutants' backstories and motivations. In the case of Magneto (a tic), we see the driving force of his anger stemming as early as the Second World War, when his Jewish mother was killed in a Nazi concentration camp...thus impelling him on a lifelong mission to hunt down her killer who later resurfaces in the movie's villain, Sebastian Shaw (Kevin Bacon).

The "It's because the '60s ar-

pre-nuclly in device Matthew Vaughn's cinematic fetishes, swirling screens, and the "old" and "new" mutants find themselves involved in—hey, now, nothing less than the mistletoed—off to Cuba, when John F. Kennedy engaged the Soviets in a high-stakes chicken game of death—and the Mafia!

So, how in blazes did the writers get involved in that business event? It turns out (in the movie's fictive unspooling of its mesmerizing hell of exposition) that Shaw is a "secret" mutant who wants the world's good and bad guys to exterminate each other, so that only the Mutant Race can rightfully reign over the planet.

Oh, brother. That he can succeed in this is much too frustrating for some viewers...but, it looks like most will like him are willing to go on a ten-year ride trip, so the producers obligers with very many un-

predictable fantasy flourishes.

Long sequence

Three years the line, however, when the whole shebang gets to be a wild and woolly event for a take-no-prisoners sci-fi caper—as in the long sequence in which a swarm of gunships and bodyguards inside keep changing course, because the super-brains considering them are having second and third thoughts—

It's in scenes like that where the films's cleverness and wild imagination exceeds itself and becomes unintentionally silly. Also, super-mutant powers and "accidents" comedy simply don't mix, so the key scene ends...not with a bang, but with a silly simper.

Other low blows include the young mutants' revolving training session, and the fact that some of their skills may be unnecessary and "cute," but they're no match for the villains' truly prodigious superpowers, when push really comes to shove.

Enormous power

To make things worse, Kevin Bacon is miscast in the movie's main villain. We, he's able to evoke up enormous power, thanks to the production that's special effects wizards, but he doesn't come across as truly fearsome, because...well, he's Kevin Bacon.

Thankfully, Michael Fassbender, Jennifer Lawrence and James Mcavoy (Professor Xavier better), so the movie is able to recover some of the believable and compelling gravitas it needs to end up, all told, as an exciting viewing experience.

Best of all, through all of its famous-during story de Jesus, "X-Men: First Class" is still able to humanize and vividly use substantial themes and provocative cinematic insights—including its most touching subtheme: how and how of the mutant "others" who aren't like them, and thus don't deserve to be treated, let alone understood, embraced and loved.

Everybody's favorite 'mare' is also a ferociously fine actress

By Butch Cervantes

I MEET Jaime (see) Wilmie Bisnar at 1 PM when I enrolled in UP Diliman. (She had entered the school a year earlier.) She was a popular soul even then. She was the youngest sister of Johnny, Minnie and Angie Colla (the other sisters were Annette and Wanda.) When we were introduced to each other, I was referred to as the brother of Bob, who acted with Angie in the UP Dramatic Club.

In 1960, Bob starred with Pancho in the movie, with a baby to you, Jojo, the son of Annie and grandson of Juan Collar, President El pido Quirino's press secretary. Two years later, Wilmie joined the UP Dramatic Club and was spectacular in a Paul Claudel play. In fact, Freddie Carreon's review claimed that Wilmie was a better actress than Angie, a direct insult. (The future National

HOBGOD (WITH THE AUTHOR, LEFT) - Kooky, fun and intelligent.

Artist also said that my brother Tony was a better artist than me—a matter of opinion!)

It wasn't until 1977, when I directed Amelia Lapeña Bonifacio's play, "The Short, Short Life of Citizen Juan," that I benched Tony and Wilmie, along with my old friends, Dencio Gamboa and NOT, Dayanglipaying (Ruby Triadó), Cora Yatar, Kamora Tiongco and Flo Payot.

Crowd scene

Leading the crowd scene was Jojo, the reynoldsville baby brought home by Bob. We became close friends because of familial connections, despite the fact that we often clashed, being of similar temperaments and pigheadedness.

I was delighted by Wilmie's artistic lowest, as I saw her in Rajniganda in Rinaldo Demetillo's Palanca Award-winning play, "The Heart of Empire is Black." Wilmie was the central heart of that production. (Unfortunately, Judy was again cast as a thirst.)

Soon after, I was asked by the Dilimna organization to direct a play for winner for a festival of its award-winning plays at CCP. Pinid Gyrate's comedy, "Young Tacos." I cast Wilmie as the star, and would be old maid entered by a blustering Meggie Cabrabulos and a unicorn Gia Sandia.

Her character's parents were played by Lucinda Almeda and Tony Mabesa. Ayi Galido, now a doctor in Kalibo, played her funny younger brother. He remained at Wilmie's new home in Damarañas Village, with the permission of Christian, of course. Tami and Lee were invited also. We had fun as an acting troupe!

Guesting stints

NOT and the late Elvira Manahan discovered that Wilmie was not an actress, she was effervescent, and launched her budding television career by offering her guesting stints on "Tara for the Road." Unsurprisingly, she became a hit. She was funky, hip and intelligent—a rare treat!

Those days, Wilmie is better known as TV's Morong Wilmie. But, I'm just as impressed with her as I was the first time I saw her, and along the second floor lobby of the Liberal Arts building. That "grand entrance" was also seen in "Siling: Struggle to Marry" "The Short, Short Life of Citizen Juan," "The Heart of Empire is Black" and "Pining Tacos." Where else does one, if one is direct her in the disarming materials in Federico Garcia Lorca's "The House of Bernarda Alba"?

She'll also be spectacular as Portia, Lady Macbeth, Medea—and Cordelia in Paul Joaquin's "A Portrait of the Artist as Filipino"!

McAvoy talks about 'First Class,' fatherhood and Redford

MCAVOY: 'I don't run my hair in between jobs.'

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben U. Seguiler

LOS ANGELES—Like Christian Bale, James McAvoy grows his hair long when he is "unemployed." "I don't run my hair in between jobs," explained the actor, who is winning new fans and positive reviews for his take on Charles Xavier in "X-Men: First Class."

So, how long does his hair get? "It depends on how long the period of unemployment is," he replied.

James has never lacked projects since he captivated moviegoers as Mr. Tumnus in "The Chronicles of Narnia: the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe." But, with the box-office success and good buzz, especially for his chemistry with Michael Fassbender as Magneto, in "First Class," it looks like he's going to have more frequent bookings. Many Hollywood scouts to see more of James' Michael, who effectively portray how their characters were great friends before they became arch enemies.

Luxury

James' career took off since he appeared as the fawn in "Narnia," but, in our interviews (with him over the years), he has stayed the same—genial and down-to-earth. In this recent chat, during his new DL, shared that he gets "grumpier" as he gets older, but he's really still Mr. Nice Guy. Maybe he just needs to sleep more, a luxury he hasn't had since the birth of his son, Brendan, with wife, actress Anne-Marie Duff, in 2008.

Excerpts from our interviews:

Can you talk about Michael Fassbender's naughty streak?

Michael has a naughty streak, yes...that's why our bush dish is one really important when we were waiting for Jennifer a relationship that was going to fuel this movie's emotional core than we got on. When we first met during the casting, we both felt like, "God, let it be us two." We both felt that we had an affy in each other. We share a similar sense of humor. We could push things a little more, we got on so easy and keep a perspective about it because making these massive, ridiculous movies can sometimes be mind-breaking. Some of humor is important. Michael definitely was the one—and thank God for that!

How did you approach the role, knowing that it has been played in previous films by Patrick Stewart?

I turned more to the comic books, because I thought that might appreciate it. I wasn't out to show a little differences. Since I play the younger Charles Xavier, he's less in control of his powers. So, maybe, he has little ties and crutches to help him through it. I took a lot of notes on the characterizations that already exists, but it was important to me that there'd be something different throughout the movie.

I tried to think what Patrick Stewart was like as Prof. Charles Xavier. He's a leader, wise and steady...so, I tried to make him as saintly and unwise, a little bit of a lady drawer and a drinker just to show that he's younger and less focused. He's not yet that man who's mission, not yet a sensible of the world. He's a version of the personal whimsy.

In the movie, you have a genetic mutation-related pickup line. When you were single, did you have a good pickup line?

Relationship

I've been in a relationship for a long time. My dating days before that time weren't very well successful. They were quite lame.

What was your scariest first date?

What do you do for a living?" You see, I'm not very good at this. You can see why I'm very happily married.

Matthew Vaughn directed this film but with Bryan Singer who directed the first two "X-Men" movies, as one of the producers, how much input did Bryan give?

What Bryan was brilliant at was knowing when he could help and leaving Matthew to make his own decisions when everything was fine. When Bryan needed to step in and help Matthew, that's what he was there for—to educate what Matthew wanted to do. Bryan saw a boundary where he probably thought, "That's not my actor, that's Matthew's actor."

Restraint

There was so much restraint exhibited there, because with Bryan's back catalogue and the fact that he helped originate "X-Men" on film, he could have excelled to and assumed calling the shots. But, he didn't. He left us to build a relationship with Matthew, which was closer at last.

Can you talk about being directed by Robert Redford in "The Conspirator"?

Robert Redford was probably the most calming influence I've ever had as a director. Both great, cut and most used icons to me was, "I'm fine." It sounds selfish, like a cliche to do last, but the way he directs is to step away all his work and let the actor come on...you don't need to do anything else. The actor is so strong that you just help tell it. Gina's got to the way of the story. But was quite a many thing as an actor to begin with, because you're used to trying to make sure every line resonating, Bob's point as a director is that you don't have to make anything interesting.

How was your first year living a father?

When people say, "If you don't have children, you won't understand," that's not true. The lack of sleep is the thing that you don't understand. I'm still coming to terms with that. The huge under-my-eyes...that's the biggest thing I'll take away from the first year.

Worst quality

What are your best and worst qualities?

My worst quality is that I'm mistaken very grumpy. I'm getting grumpier the older I get. I never used to think of myself like that. My best quality is, I try to respect everyone. But, with my increasing grumpiness, it doesn't take long to see if this person doesn't deserve respect.

Since you used to be a baker, can you share a pastry recipe?

I was very bad at pastry. I did the final decorating for a lot of the Christmas cakes. I'm pretty good with a recipe which I'm very fond of, because it allows me to make cookies within minutes, from the moment I say, "I want a cookie!" I can have cookies made and ready to eat within 25 minutes and that's a really good. You just need a good mixing bowl and a strong arm. You get the butter out of the fridge warmed up. It's just soft using flour, sugar, honey and dried apricots—they go really strong Meggie.

What has been your most embarrassing moment with a fan?

I don't want to make the girl feel bad, but she's a very lovely fan, who made some beautiful things, written a song and put together a PhotoShop of my pictures. I didn't spend more than the day was a fan, but I was talking to her for about 20 minutes. I thought she just happened to be standing next to me in a bar. But I realized that I was being followed around. So, that was kind of weird, though there was nothing strange or threatening. It was just the shock of realizing, "Oh wow, I've been stalked."

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'Amaya' entices with its exotic look, 'elemental' conflicts

By Nestor U. Torre

THE COMBATTOR on TV is at a season high, with new teleseryes fielding big star power, production values and "unique selling propositions" designed to upstage rival seties in the ratings race.

"Sunod" stars "Primetime TV queen" Marian Rivera in an ethnic drama that entices viewers with its exotic look and "elemental" conflicts surrounding a warrior princess who is also the long-lost father's wives and other off spring.

The show's ethnic look is exotic and engaging, but it alone can't sustain viewer interest, so the writers' script plays up the beguiling melodramatic formula to a tee of weather, including "royal" envy and greed, passion, child abduction, attempted assassination, etc.

Element

Unfortunately, those elements are pretty much what you find in many other teleseryes, so when push comes to shove, the ethnic element is "nature" in pretty much just "pretty candy."

As for the performances, Marian has (as of this writing) still to make her appearance as the series' young adult title character. We trust that, after the show's initial hype, she can do justice to her interesting role as a warrior princess in land of predominantly male datus and commoners.

So aside from people are extravagantly beautiful, and dressed up in the "gowns" of TV teleseryes, a title that other popular actresses would definitely question. So, the subjective elevation of the actress to "regal" status could prove to be problematic and there is no counterpart/antithesis, because it may raise viewers' expectations of her latest project to unrealistic—and unbelievable—levels.

It would be better to blame, therefore, the show's programmers to back off, tone down and wait for Marian to prove herself in her latest and perhaps biggest teleserye outing.

Other actors "Amaya" marks the comeback of Raymond Bagatsing to TV acting,

RIVERA: Portray's warrior princess in exotic costumes.

in the key role of the princess' father. The actor's dark looks and tense and even intense acting style lend themselves well to his comeback effort.

But, we wonder why the somewhat older Gina Alajar was cast as his spouse and mother of their wife. The age difference becomes a problem, especially when she attempts to seduce him in practice the son he longs to have. (Imean his domestic in time. Amaya tries a warrior).

Motivations

Perhaps Gina may can become the story needs a strong villainess? Alas, the writers' motivations (despite gifts are generally laudable) are sacrificed, because her character's main motivations of jealousy, anger and greed are translated TV dreamy fare, and don't really need a superlative actress like her to project them.

Well, it's still early days for the visually arresting series, so we trust that its storytelling firms up and attains greater and more organic focus and impact in the weeks to come.

Finally, and a convincingly exciting and (hopefully "regal" portrayal by Marian Rivera, would effectively silence all naysayers, so-called, and affirm her considerable right to claim local celebrity status.

Tribute to Manny Pichel

Pintagan B2

that vividly the young man's heroic and angelic goodness—but, more than being just optimistic, the songs are a glowing reality that the movie's young hero has to deal with and deeply comprehend.

The production seeks to promote goodness and kindness as part of the sponsoring psychocare (De La Salle University) advocacy, and it also intended to make funds for the One La Salle Scholarship Drive's 10,000 free efficacies nationwide.

Let's all do our bit to help, like Manny Pichel. He didn't grow angel wings, but his inspiring example lives on! Visit http://www.facebook.com/